DUDLEY
CHRONICLE

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Temple plan

Europe's biggest to become ever larger

Page 9

New-look Len

Serious direction for popular comedian

Page 15

Musical youth

Rising stars line up for city concerts

Page 23

TOWN IS FIFTH IN LAZY LEAGUE

DUDLEY'S council leader says a report which claimed the borough's residents were among the most inactive in the country showed the split of people taking exercise and those 'stuffing themselves watching the television'.

By Tim Spiers and Alex Homer

Some 37.6 per cent of the borough's population has been deemed not to do enough activity — making the area the fifth least active area in the country, according to the research by health group UK Active.

David Sparks said there was a 'massive' involvement in sport in the borough but there were also too many people eating too much and not exercising enough.

He said: "Dudley is no different to anywhere else. We have a constantly increasing number of gyms and a huge network of other sports facilities.

Jobs

"UK Active is obviously a credible organisation and their research shows that the whole of the UK needs to pay far more attention to diet and exercise.

"What is happening in Dudley I suppose is a paradox — you have an increasing number of people taking exercise and an increasing number who are stuffing themselves watching the television."

Ninder Johal, vice president of the Black Country Chamber of Commerce, which represents businesses across the area, said the issue could be down to the jobs people are doing.

More workers in areas such as Dudley and Sandwell, which was second on the list, now find themselves in sedentary jobs in the service industry, he said.

Mr Johal added: "What you can't ignore is people's social behaviour and the types of jobs they do. People are working long hours sitting down, gyms are quite expensive for some and they might go home and sit down and watch television."

The report warned that a 'pandemic' of inactivity in poor areas of England was leading to premature deaths. Thirteen of the top 15 local authorities where people are the most inactive also sit in some of the most deprived parts of the country, said experts from the not-for-profit health group. Where inactivity levels are at their highest, early deaths also peak, the study found.

Manchester topped the lazy league, with 40 per cent of its residents deemed to be inactive. Sandwell was fractionally ahead of Salford, while Dudley was fifth on 37.6 per cent.

In the 15 most inactive local authorities, there is an average of 342 premature deaths per 100,000 people per year, compared with 242 in those where people exercise the most.

A weigh to go — so hurry up Orry

Patagonian sealion Orry tips the scales at a hefty 63-stone at his daily winter weigh-in at Dudley Zoo

HE tips the scales at a whopping 63st and eats buckets of sprats, mackerel and herring a day to keep in top shape.

Patagonian sealion Orry also has to have daily weigh-ins ensure he stays fit and healthy during the winter months.

The 22-year-old heavyweight needs to bulk up during the colder weather to endure the icy water in the moat pools around 11th century Dudley Castle at the heart of the zoological gardens. But his monster weight will only last until the weather warms up when it will fall to a more light 50st.

The zoo's head of media and communications, Jill Hitchman, said: "Sealions have a thick layer of fat beneath their skin which acts as insulation during chilly periods, rather like a duvet, and at this time of year keepers weigh Orry each day to make sure he is the optimum weight.

"He receives an average of eight kilos of sprats a day, in addition to mackerel and herring, but will eat less when the weather warms up, when his weight will fall to a more sprightly 320kg, or 50 stone."

Predators

Patagonian sealions are found on the Chilean, Ecuador, Peruvian, Uruguayan, Argentine and Southern Brazilian coasts. The males are much larger than females with a thick, maned neck and large head, giving them a lion-like appearance. Both sexes have upturned snouts and external ears.

In the wild, the sealions are large and fearsome predators, but are preyed upon themselves by killer whales, which go so far as to beach themselves in pursuit of a sea lion pup.

They are carnivores, feeding primarily on schooling fish, such as anchovies and hake. They will also feed on squid and octopus or on whatever food is seasonally available.

Tiger Talk — See page 17

Mortgage arrears team get 229 calls

A MORTGAGE arrears advice service received 229 calls to help families who feared they could lose their home in just six months.

Referrals for people in need of help because of the possibility of repossession were logged between April and September by the Dudley service. During the same period in 2012 there were 185 referrals logged.

In the 'vast majority of cases', the service has been able to offer advice and support to prevent the loss of homes.

It is a free service for anyone having difficulty keeping up monthly mortgage or secured loan payments.

Councillor Steve Waltho, cabinet member for housing, said: "This is an excellent, free service which is available to anyone living within the Dudley borough who is worried about debt and losing their home.

"The pressures of modern living often lead to people getting into debt after and this initiative means that they have someone who they can turn to. The service is confidential and impartial, and is run in partnership between Dudley Council and the Dudley Citizens Advice Bureau."

Anyone who wants to use the free service can call 01384 816499 or visit their local Citizens' Advice Bureau.

More work on major route

MOTORISTS are being warned of more traffic problems on a major route as part of the second phase of repair work on leaking water pipes.

South Staffordshire Water has completed a two-month project underneath Birmingham New Road, between Wolverhampton and Dudley. But now repairs are needed to the road which will lead to two weekends of disruption. Between February 14 and 17 and 21 and 24, lane closures will be in place between Shaw Road and Ivyhouse Lane junctions.

Office to be shut as services go to shop

A POST office in the Black Country is to close — and its facilities moved into a shop two doors down — under a 'major modernisation' programme announced by bosses.

The post office in Pensnett High Street will close on March 13. However, two post office serving counters will open a day later inside Costcutter, also in High Street.

Bosses say the move will benefit customers due to longer opening hours.

Confident

Post office services will be available from 6am to 10pm, Monday to Sunday. The current post office is open from 9am to 5.30pm, Monday to Saturday.

Adrian Wales, Post Office regional network manager for Central England, said: "We understand how important having a post office is to residents in Pensnett and we are confident that this new modern post office will meet the needs of the local community and secure services for the future."

He added: "The modernisation is part of a major investment programme to convert the Post Office network to new-style branches and this investment, the largest in the history of the Post Office, makes a commitment to no more branch closure programmes."

Tunnels to close again

DRIVERS are being urged to make alternative plans to use public transport as council bosses announced further closures of Birmingham's A38 tunnels.

The St Chad's and Queensway tunnels will be closed to traffic from 10pm on July 18 until 6am on September 1.

The work will take place following two weeks of overnight closures, from 10pm to 6am, and followed by up to four weeks of more overnight closures. City bosses say the work is essential.

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CONTENTS

Letters	7
Clubs	8
The Way I See It	10
Travel	22
What's on	23
TV listings	24 - 26
Property	32
Motoring	36
Classifieds	42
Sport	47 & 48

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Couples can say I do and then BOGOF

IT may not sound romantic but BOGOF register office wedding deals could be a clincher for cash-strapped couples tying the knot on a budget.

Dudley Register Office is trying out the quirky deal at its Grade I listed Priory Hall, where couples can say 'I do' and 'I do' again for half the price.

The venue is inviting brides and grooms to team up with other engaged couples to purchase two ceremonies for the price of one.

It is the latest way for couples to save money on their big day and it could be worth up to £240 per couple, depending on which day of the week they pick.

Sunday ceremonies usually cost £480 while Saturdays are priced at £310, Fridays £210 and Mondays to Thursdays £160.

In recent years there has been a growing number of brides buying second-hand dresses.

The Buy One Get One Free offer extends to wedding vows, so a young couple could go halves with parents wanting to reaffirm their commitment to each other.

Naming ceremonies — an alternative to christenings for children — and civil partnerships are included in the deal at the venue which hosts more than 1,000 ceremonies a year.

Penny Fulford, superintendent registrar at Priory Hall, said the offer would help couples save money.

She said: "This is the first time that we have tried a BOGOF deal, so we will see how popular it proves to be."

Mrs Fulford, a registrar for nearly 17 years, said besides helping couples, it was hoped the offer would boost bookings. Call 01384 815373.

Major homes project at brickworks site

AROUND 170 homes will be built on an historic former brickworks in Sedgley.

Modern architecture and tree-lined streets will feature as part of the transformation of the former Baggeridge Brickworks, in Gospel End.

In total 170 homes will be built on the site, off Fir Street, under detailed plans brought before South Staffordshire Council.

Outline plans for the scheme were first turned down by South Staffordshire Council planners who feared it would be too big for the site. Its decision was later overturned by the Planning Inspectorate following a public inquiry.

Now developers David Wilson Homes and Weinerberger have showcased their vision for the future of the site.

Affordable

It has emerged that around 43 per cent of the homes to be built on site will have four or more bedrooms.

But in planning documents they say they do propose for 30 per cent of the total number of properties will be 'affordable' homes.

In addition 12 craft workshops will be built next to the main chimney sack, which is to be retained as part of the redevelopment, alongside a car park.

Officials say the so called 'craft village' will provide 'employment and also tourism opportunities which will benefit the local economy'.

A community centre will also be built and there are plans for a nursing home, subject to separate planning permission.

There will also be a community garden with an orchard and a landscaped pond.

A model railway building will be replaced and a new link road from the A463 will also be created.

Funding to help with cancer care

CANCER nurses have been presented with scholarships by a Black Country MP.

Dudley North MP Ian Austin handed out the awards to the medical staff who are based at Russells Hall Hospital's Georgina Unit.

The nurses will receive the further training at the unit thanks to the backing of the Leukaemia Unit Appeal Fund.

Specialist

The fund also raises cash to help pay for new specialist staff, equipment and respite breaks for patients and their families.

Labour MP Mr Austin said: "All of the staff at Russells Hall's Georgina Unit do brilliant work and it's a huge honour to present them with these scholarships for further training."

He added: "The appeal fund continues to do great work in supporting the unit and I've been taken aback by the generosity of everyone involved."

The presentation took place at the Leukaemia Unit Appeal Fund's annual general meeting on Friday.

Awards joy for dentist

Dentist Dr Edward Young, aged 33, from Quarry Bank, is shortlisted for an award

DENTIST Edward Young prides himself on doing his best to make sure his patients have a winning smile.

And now he is grinning from ear to ear himself after winning his way through to the final of a national award, which will be judged in the same month that he is expecting the birth of his first child.

Dr Young, aged 33, who lives in Quarry Bank, has been treating patients at Amblecote Dental Care, in Amblecote Road, Brierley Hill, for the last 10 years. He is a general dentist, with special interests in cosmetic dentistry and orthodontics.

He has entered the National Dental Aesthetic Dental Awards for the first time and has learned he is one of six shortlisted for the final in the 'patient choice' category for orthodontics.

Dr Young has been at Amblecote Dental Care since graduating as a dentist from Sheffield University.

Police in probe on shooting at driver

A GUN was fired during a 'targeted attack' on a man driving a car along a main road, police have revealed.

Officers closed off a section of Dudley Road, in Brierley Hill, as an investigation was launched.

And police confirmed there was evidence to suggest a firearm had been discharged.

The road at the scene of a shooting has reopened as police investigations continue.

The 34-year-old driver reported being attacked while driving his car at around 5am on Sunday, January 26 He was not injured.

Officers said they had been trawling CCTV and searching an area of Dudley Road.

Inspector Jim Munro, from West Midlands Police Criminal Investigation Department, said: "There is evidence to suggest that a firearm was discharged. At this stage officers believe this was a targeted attack."

Police are still urging witnesses with any information to come forward on the 101 number.

Inspector Munro said officers believed it was an isolated incident.

Lots of fun at half-term

A HOST of activities have been lined up for a Black Country kids' fun club during half term.

The Juniors at Museums (JAM) club will run across Dudley from February 15 to 23. Broadfield House Glass Museum, the Red House Glass Cone and Dudley Museum and Art Gallery will host sessions.

Events include the chance to make a glass tile at the Glass Cone, while Broadfield House is running an interactive story trail. At Dudley Museum children can take part in a family crafts day inspired by Disney movie Frozen.

Dryer on fire

A HOME utility room has been left badly damaged following a tumble dryer fire.

Fire crews were called to the house in Arundel Road in Stourbridge. Crew Commander Andy Bennett said: "No-one was hurt but the room and a washing machine were badly damaged."

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£167,000 funding to boost high streets

MORE than £160,000 is available in grants to boost struggling town centres, clean up high streets and tackle empty shops across Dudley.

Councillors say they want communities to take pride in their town centres across Dudley borough and instigate improvements.

Businesses and community groups can bid for a share of grants totalling £167,000 to breathe new life into ailing high streets.

Individuals or groups will be able to apply for grants to fund projects such as tidying up problem areas and schemes to encourage businesses.

Dudley Council's regeneration boss, Councillor Judy Foster, said the authority is working hard to bring improvements to town centres.

""We are inviting people who love their community to bid for pots of money to fund their own schemes and innovative projects which will help rejuvenate town and local centres."

Cash has been pooled including £100,000 from the High Street Innovation Fund handed to councils in the wake of a report by retail guru Mary Portas. There is also the £52,000 from the empty shops grant.

Ornament is stolen

CAMPAIGNERS have been left reeling after a thief sneaked in to their drop-in centre and stole an ornament, which was being sold to raise money towards re-opening a church.

The theft happened at the base used by St John's Church Preservation Group in Kates Hill, Dudley.

Volunteers had been busy when the thief took the 15 inch hight Yorkshire Terrier ornament at around noon on Friday.

The item was one of many being collected to raise funds towards repair work at St John's Church, which has been closed since 2002.

Cheers to Marilyn

A Black Country brewery's latest ale has been named in honour of movie star Marilyn Monroe.

Some Like it Blonde — a 4.5 per cent strenth beer — went on sale in Holden's 20 pubs in the Black Country and surrounding area on Monday.

Homes proposed at nature reserve site

PLANS to breathe new life into the site of a former 19th century manor house in a Dudley nature reserve by creating new homes and a £300,000 warden's base are poised to be given the go-ahead.

The development for the land at Saltwells has been proposed by Selbourne Homes. It was left vacant after Saltwells House was knocked down three years ago.

Under the plans a single-storey warden's base which will be used by staff working in the nature reserve as well as visitors and schoolchildren will be built.

Five detached houses would also be constructed in a 'woodland style' to fit in with the surroundings.

Planning officers at Dudley Council have backed the scheme saying it will make a 'positive contribution' to the site and would not harm the nature reserve.

A report by case officer Vijay Kaul said: "The proposed development would not have an adverse effect on animal species, amenity of existing or future occupiers or highway safety."

Dudley Council has agreed to earmark £120,000 from the reserves budget of the council's urban environment directorate for the new base.

Classrooms

Environment councillor Tracy Wood said: "The exciting proposal for the wardens' base on the old Saltwells House site will give the nature reserve a facility that can be used by the whole community."

Gavin Warr, managing director of Hagley-based Selbourne Homes said the warden's base would also have classrooms for schoolchildren learn about the woodlands and nature reserve.

Saltwells House had been ravaged by vandals and was attacked by arsonists on several occasions after it shut in 2001. The building, off Pedmore Road, opposite the Merry Hill Shopping Centre, had previously been used as a school and a nursing home.

Dudley Council disposed of the Saltwells House site in March 2010 to its Limited Liability Partnership company PSP Dudley. It was demolished soon after despite calls for it to be retained and renovated.

Watchdog concerns on hospital parking demand

A PATIENTS' watchdog group has backed controversial plans to replace a walk-in centre with an urgent care centre at Russells Hall Hospital but has raised concerns about parking at the hospital.

Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group – CCG – intends to close the walk-in centre at Holly Hall Clinic, in Stourbridge Road, and move services to a new unit at the hospital.

The plan looks set to go ahead after Paul Maubach, chief officer at the CCG, told the council's health scrutiny committee that he was recommending it goes ahead following a consultation.

The new centre would work alongside the accident and emergency department and would be available 24 hours, seven days a week for patients to walk in or make appointments.

Improve

At the council meeting last week, councillors raised concerns over the plan and Councillor Bryan Cotterill said it was against the patients' wishes. But Healthwatch Dudley, a group representing patients, said the proposal would 'improve' the service.

Chairman Pam Bradbury said: "We feel the service will be improved by the proposed increased opening hours and appointment booking system but we do have a concern regarding the insufficient parking facilities at the hospital.

Report by Alex Ross

"We appreciate this issue needs to be balanced with improved access to a high quality clinical service. We will be listening carefully to patient voices and experiences to ensure the service specification for the new walk-in centre meets the needs of local people."

Dudley CCG has a £1.4 million contract with healthcare firm Primecare to run the centre. It was due to run out in April but has been extended to September while plans for the future are drawn up.

The group carried out an independent patient survey of people attending the accident and emergency department at Russells Hall Hospital and at the walk-in centre. The CCG is now working on a more detailed plan to bring before councillors. The walk-in centre contract ends in September.

Officers will be sharing the results of the consultation on February 13 from 5.30pm until 7.30pm at Brierley Hill Civic Hall.

Boxers going toe-to-toe

A BIG crowd is expected for a fundraising boxing event at Brierley Hill where young fighters will go glove-to-glove to help their club.

Nearly all 300 tickets have sold out to see the bouts between members of Priory Park Boxing Club at The Copthorne Hotel in Merry Hill, Brierley Hill, on February 22. For tickets call 07528 545586 or email prioryparkpromotions@gmail.co.uk or visitwww.priory parkboxing.co.uk

Manager Keith Rogers with one of the remaining go-karts at the activity centre

Plea for help at raided youth HQ

A CHILDREN'S activity centre targeted by burglars twice in a month has launched an appeal for help replacing items.

More than £3,000 worth of tools and go-karts were stolen from Sycamore Adventure Centre in Old Park Farm Estate, Dudley, in the two raids on its outdoor store containers last month.

The tools were needed for the upkeep of the facility and building of play structures such as tree houses. Unfortunately, the items will not be replaced under the centre's insurance policy.

Manager Keith Rogers said the group is appealing to local businesses for donations, as well as asking the Friends of Sycamore Adventure for help.

The stolen tools include a Dewalt sander, a Makita hand held circular saw, a Makita two-speed Hammer Drill, a Shindaiwa 2T leaf blower, a Makita Jigsaw, a STIHL Strimmer and a JCB hand-held power drill. The go-karts were made by Berg.

The items were taken from the shipping containers in two overnight burglaries. The thieves used bolt cutters.

To help call 01384 813755.

NEWS in brief

Author shares tips on writing

BEST-SELLING author Miranda Dickinson has shared her writing top tips with college students. She visited Birmingham Metropolitan College's Stourbridge campus to offer advice on how to pursue a career as a writer.

Miranda, of Lower Gornal, has written five books, all appearing on the Sunday Times Best-Selling list, the most recent – Take a Look at Me Now – reaching number four. She has also been shortlisted twice for the Romantic Novelists' Association Awards.

Pamper night means business

A CHARITY is promising plenty of glitz and glamour when it hosts a fundraising pamper evening next month.

The event in aid of Sedgley's Beacon Centre for the Blind will take place on March 27. Businesses are offered the chance to showcase their wares on the night. Organiser Jo Field said: "We are planning an evening of glitz and glamour, fashion and fun."

The event will run from 6.30pm-9.30pm. See www.beacon4blind.co.uk for details.

Youth on song for Barnardo's

THOUSANDS of young singers who took part in a huge choral event have raised almost £8,000 for charity.

Pupils at schools from across the Black Country joined others from across the Midlands in a special performance at the LG Arena in Birmingham.

Bucket collections for Barnardo's raised £7,954 during a four-night run.

New dog group raised over £1k

THE newly-formed Haden Hill Dog Awareness Group has raised more than £1,000 for charity.

The group raised £1,032 with its first Dog Awareness Day in Haden Hill Park, Cradley Heath, last year, which included a dog fun show, stalls and display teams. Members handed a cheque over to Hearing Dogs For Deaf People.

TV cop drama

A PERIOD crime drama set in the West Midlands returns to BBC1 next week. The new series of WPc 56 starts on Monday. Much of the filming took place at the Black Country Living Museum.

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NEWS

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

A COMMITTEE of MPs has criticised the Royal Household for spending money unwisely. So that's a stern memo to Queen Kettle from the House of Pots.

❒❒❒❒❒❒❒❒

IN FACT, is there a more wasteful institution in the world than the UK Parliament? You would think by now, with 70 per cent of our laws passed in Brussels and separate governments established in Scotland, Wales and Ulster, that the Commons could do its job with far fewer MPs. Yet 650 fat bottoms are still crammed on to those leather benches with a further 800 – an all-time record – in the House of Lords. Never in the field of human politics have so many done so little and charged so much.

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A DRIVER-v-cyclist video went viral this week. It shows a white Audi edging into a cycle-only box in London. A cyclist remonstrates with the driver. The Audi sets off, the cyclist in hot, indignant pursuit. At the next lights, the cyclist puts his angry face against the driver's window and rages: "You ****ing p****!" At this point someone gets out of the Audi and thumps the cyclist. Judging from the comments to the video, how you react to this incident depends entirely on your mode of transport. Cyclists see it as a shocking assault on one of their clan. Drivers see an obscenity-yelling cyclist getting his comeuppance. (Seriously, if you stick your face a few inches from a stranger's face and call him a "****ing p****!" what do you expect?) A visitor from Mars would study the scene, with bikes, cars and lorries whizzing everywhere and wonder why in the name of sanity they are all sharing the same roads.

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ED Balls's plan for a 50p rate appeals to the politics of envy, that deep-seated British belief that the "rich" (which usually means those earning £10,000-a-year more than us), should be made to suffer for their success. Yet surely the ocean-cruise industry is a more effective cure for our envy than the tax system. This week, another 300 well-heeled passengers have been stricken with sickness and diarrhoea in the Caribbean. Own up. Is there any greater joy than hearing that your rich friends, having boasted for months about their forthcoming cruise, have just spent £10,000 and six days sitting on the loo?

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HOW many Scots, hearing this week that Scotland could keep the pound only if it surrendered a degree of sovereignty, were wondering what this arrangement might be called. How about The United Kingdom?

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SO FAREWELL, Pete Seeger, the American folk singer who challenged the system and used music as his weapon in the struggle. Sadly, he also spawned a new breed of rebels without a chord. In the Sixties and Seventies every party attracted at least one sad-looking teenager turning up in a US combat jacket inscribed "Che" with a CND badge, Palestinian scarf and a guitar. This unhappy breed would croon We Shall Overcome when everyone knew they were middle-class kids and the only thing they needed to overcome was acne.

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LABOUR is pressing for the law to be changed to ban people smoking in cars containing children. They were in power for 13 years. Why didn't they do it then?

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OUR changing language. A BBC announcer told us that last night's series Britain's Great War would explain "how the Great War impacted Britain." Coming up, the First World War, impact by impact. Huns impact Belgium. Old Contemptibles impact Huns. Brits impact Loos. Huns impact Verdun. Brits impact Somme, Ypres and Passchendaele. Bolsheviks impact Tsar. Huns impact entire Western Front. Brits impact Hindenburg Line. Armistice impacts Huns. Spanish Flu impacts everybody. And the winner is – American grammar.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Last call for hero nominations

AN appeal has been made for people to nominate unsung community heroes for an award.

Dudley Council is running the Mayor's Civic Awards to reward people who work for the good of their communities. The awards also tie into the council's Love Your Community Campaign.

Mayor Councillor Alan Finch is inviting people to nominate people, groups, organisations and businesses in their community who deserve special recognition. He said: "There are many people across the borough who go above and beyond but without the Mayor's Civic Awards we have no way of knowing about them or celebrating what they do."

There are six categoriesbacked by businesses and a seventh trophy, the Mayor's Award, will be decided by a public vote. Councillor Finch will choose four people or groups he feels have stood out to him on his civic engagements so far in his Mayoral year. The public will then have the chance to vote online for the winner. Nominations cannot be put forward for this particular award. A judging panel will decide the other categories.

The winners and runners-up will be presented with a trophy and a certificate by the Mayor of Dudley at a civic ceremony in April. People can nominate online at www.dudley.gov.uk/civicawards or can pick up a form from libraries and leisure centres. They can call 01384 817449 for a form.

Completed forms should be sent to Mayor's Civic Awards nominations, communications and public affairs, Dudley Council, FREEPOST MID22308, Dudley, DY1 1BR by February 17.

Landlords are fined on gas safety failure

TWO brothers have been been fined for ignoring gas safety regulations while letting out a house.

Philip Hale, aged 52, of Gayfield Avenue in Brierley Hill, and Roger Hale, 50, of Karen Way, Brierley Hill, both pleaded guilty to failing to get gas appliances at their property in Himley Street in Dudley safety checked.

by Alex Ross

Dudley Magistrates' Court heard how the pair had rented the house for seven years - but had not, from 2006 until last April, had the appliances checked under the register, which is a legal requirement for landlords.

Couple Julian and Mandi Wilson rented the property for five years. They called out the National Grid after smelling gas and were told to no longer use two gas fires in the house. They also suffered headaches and sickness but Ms Pam Folsom, prosecuting for the Health and Safety Executive, said: "There was no direct evidence of both being as a result of carbon monoxide poisoning."

A gas engineer described the property's boiler fitting as a 'Heath Robinson' job. Mr Nicholas Mills, defending the brothers, said they had not been aware how often a gas safety certificate was required.

Mr Michael Whitehouse, chairman of the bench, fined Philip Hale £1,000 and Roger Hale was fined £1,500. Both were ordered to pay £464.10 each court costs. Philip Hale was also ordered to pay £100 victim surcharge. Roger Hale will pay £120 victim surcharge.

Mr Whitehouse said: "I hope this makes it clear that this regulation is important for landlords and is there to be followed. Something far more serious could have happened. You could be standing here today with a much more serious offence."

After the hearing, Ms Folsom said: "Philip and Roger Hale potentially put lives and property in danger by ignoring their responsibilities as landlords of this property. It is essential landlords have gas appliances inspected annually. Well- maintained appliances reduce the risks of carbon monoxide poisoning and dangerous gas leaks.

Chief executive of Gas Safe Register, Russell Kramer, said: "It is important that landlords know their duties and tenants know their rights."

Group clean up Stour

VOLUNTEERS braved wind and rain to collect 40 bags of rubbish during a clean-up along the banks of the River Stour.

Halesowen and Rowley Regis MP James Morris was among those who took part in the event in Halesowen.

It was organised by environmental group Transition Stourbridge. The group is staging a River Stour exhibition in Halesowen Library during February. On February 27 at 7.30pm it will screen a film at the United Reform Church, Halesowen, about the devastating effect plastic has on the oceans.

Flaming great takeaways

Chef Bishnu Banjade cooks up a treat at a new takeaway food shop in Stourbridge High Street

A HEALTH expert is hoping to change the face of takeaways by serving up some flaming great food.

Taste Stourbridge, a new healthy takeaway bar has opened its doors in the town and is serving up noodle and rice-based dishes – all made in front of the waiting customer. It first opened seven weeks ago and owner Catherine Growcott says it is already becoming a success.

"We're trying to entice people in who may usually go for chips and encourage them to try out healthier alternatives – which I'm sure they will find are even nicer," she said.

"People say they are loving it. I think they like the fact they can make their own dishes up and then see them being cooked."

The takeaway was launched by Mrs Growcott on the back of a charity she set up last year.

MP's cat idea for infested House

THE corridors of power have plenty of dark corners for scuttling creatures but MPs would rather not see them when they are having their tea.

Dudley North MP Ian Austin is now offering to get a pair of cats for the House of Commons after he spotted a mouse in the tea room. The Labour MP went into the tea room for a cup and a chat with colleagues when he spotted the furry vermin scurrying across the floor.

He said: "Other MPs have seen mice as well. It's an old building so it's to be expected but from what others tell me, the place is full of them. I've nothing against mice, I'd just rather not have them anywhere near me."

Repair work to the Palace of Westminster is said to need i£3 billion. Much of the Grade-I listed building dates back to the 1840s and 1850s.

Mr Austin said: "It doesn't need billions spending to deal with the rodent problem. All we need is to get a couple of cats. I'd be quite happy to see if there are some in a cats sanctuary in the Black Country that need a new home. We could call them Dudley and Gornal."

Music with a message

A CONCERT launched last year to teach children about road safety has returned for a second year by popular demand.

Clock on to Safety, a concert created by DBS Law and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, was seen by around 2,000 children during its first run. Featuring catchy tunes, the purpose of the show is to demonstrate safe road use in a fun and memorable way. Concerts take place at CBSO Centre from February 12 to 14. Schools places are limited and can be booked through Paul Dasilva on 0121 675 6516.

Healthy eating

EXPERT nutritionists at Dudley Tesco store are running free health tours around the store to help the people make healthy food choices. Every Tuesday at 10.30am and Thursday at 6pm, until February 27, nutritionists will be helping by offering tips.

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Marque extends its stay at Merry Hill

MOTOR company MG is to have a mini dealership within the Merry Hill shopping centre throughout this year.

The historic marque is celebrating its 90th anniversary in 2014 and will have its new MG3 and the MG6 on show. It follows a successful two-month pre-Christmas run.

The four-car display will feature the GT fastback and Magnette sports saloon variants of the cars.

Potential buyers will also be able to talk to fully trained MG sales executives from the Longbridge factory, where they are assembled.

MG head of sales Sam Burton said: "The partnership with Westfield Merry Hill provides a fantastic opportunity for two iconic Midlands brands to continue to work together following the great success we enjoyed at the centre at the end of 2013."

Westfield director of operations Bill Giouroukos said: "Westfield is delighted that such an iconic UK brand has chosen to partner with Westfield at our Merry Hill centre to launch a new and dynamic sales platform for their exciting range of cars.

MG is owned by Chinese company SAIC Motor.

Meeting on health plan

RESIDENTS can give their feedback over controversial proposals to shut a walk-in health centre.

Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group is inviting people to discuss and hear feedback after more than 3,000 took part in the consultation over closing the health centre, in Holly Hall, and changing out of hours services.

The public healthcare forum meeting takes place between 5.30pm until 7.30pm on February 13. It takes place at Brierley Hill Civic Hall, in Bank Street. To book a place call Helen Ashford on 01384 321719.

He will bee vicar

A BEE-KEEPING vicar has moved from Bradford to the Black Country. Rev Jonathan Nicholas and wife Sian have moved, with their hive of bees, to Smethwick. He is associate vicar of Oldbury, Langley and Londonderry with responsibility for Christ Church, Oldbury.

Green Man arch will welcome shoppers

A sketch of how the arch will look

A FEATURE archway to welcome visitors as part of the £6.7m redevelopment of a historic market place has been given the go ahead by councillors in Dudley.

The Green Man archway will be created at a passageway off Castle Street in Dudley town centre. It will feature a Green Man mask and include the words 'Green Man Entry'.

The passageway, which dates back to medieval times, now links the town centre to Dudley College's Evolve campus. It is believed to have originally led to an ale house.

It comes after work got under way on the first phase of the regeneration project, which will cover Castle Street from the Earl of Dudley statue to the junction of New Street. This includes the laying of new stonework in Castle Street, which will also be incorporated in the market place later in the development, and work will be completed at the end of May.

Toilets

Contractors will then move onto phase two, which is the market place itself. The whole project is expected to be complete by early 2015.

The scheme to revamp the market place includes the relocation of the public toilets to allow the repositioning of the Duncan Edwards statue.

The historic fountain will also be fully restored and the Earl of Dudley statue will be reset within a raised lawn.

New public toilets will be created in a shop unit in 256 Castle Street before the current public toilet block is demolished to open up the full view of the town's market place. The area is set to play host to a total of 74 stalls.

Council chiefs have hailed the scheme with regeneration chief Councillor Judy Foster saying it was an "exciting time for Dudley town centre."

Council defers decision on crossing for students

A DECISION on plans to create a new pedestrian crossing for hundreds of students at a newly built Dudley College campus have been been on hold by councillors.

Residents condemned the scheme for potentially creating traffic chaos on The Broadway, near the college's new £18 million Evolve site.

They told councillors at last week's Dudley Council planning meeting that traffic jams were already a problem at junction with Castle Hill. Two sets of traffic lights are positioned at the Castle Hill junction and further down at Ednam Road near the headquarters for the White House Cancer Support.

Committee member Councillor Tim Wright said he was surprised there was a need for a further crossing when most students already used the Ednam Road lights to cross the busy road.

College officials say up to 800 students on a peak day can use the Evolve campus and will be crossing the road to access the main Broadway campus. It is claimed an extra crossing needed to improve safety on the route which is one of the busiest in and out of the town centre.

Councillors decided more information was needed on whether there had been an accidents on the stretch of road involving pedestrians.

Resident Linda Ashman, of The Broadway, said: "We have had a temporary bus stop down here recently and that has caused problems so we already know a crossing would cause more." Committee member Councillor Tim Wright said: "I cannot see the need to have another crossing along here."

Committee chairman Councillor Qadar Zada decided that the plans needed to come back before a future meeting.

Forum is to hand out a total £15k grant help

GRANTS totalling more than £15,000 have been made to groups in the Halesowen area from a local community forum.

Dudley Council's Belle Vale, Hayley Green and Cradley South Community Forum has given the cash to five organisations.

Halas Homes gets £5,000 towards an extension to a building to provide more floor space for training.

'Ups and Downs' has received £4,595 for play equipment and towards the cost of trips for a group providing support to families with children who have Downs Syndrome. Halesowen Age Concern won £2,500 for a new marquee and fund-raising events.

Another £2,074 has gone to Halesowen in Bloom towards the cost of maintaining planters.

And Fast Aid - volunteers who support West Midlands Ambulance Service - got £1,000 towards a total grant of £10,000 from all community forums in the area for a vehicle to help with 999 calls.

Canal project receives £1m from Europe

An artist's impression of Dudley Canal Trust's planned £3m visitor centre, to be called The Portal

BOSSES at Dudley Canal Trust are celebrating securing around £1 million of European funding to kickstart work on a new visitor and heritage centre.

Work will get under way by summer at the trust, which manages the Dudley canal tunnels and limestone mines, in a bid to attract thousands of visitors each year. The cash grant has been awarded from the European Regional Development Fund to help finance the building of the £3m centre to be known as the Portal.

The project has already received a £989,200 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund with further support from the J Paul Getty Jnr Charitable Trust, Wolfson Foundation, Dudley Canal Trust (Trips) Limited and the Dudley Canal Trust.

Cash will be ploughed into building the centre which will give visitors information about the history and importance of the waterways and mines. A new canal bridge will also be built to connect the Portal and towpaths with the neighbouring Black Country Living Museum. The scheme was due to be built in phases but now the full building scheme can get under way thanks to the European cash pot, managed by the Government.

Chairman of Dudley Canal Trust (Trips) Ltd, Jeff Luesley, said the grant was 'fantastic news' to herald the start of the project.

"It means we now have funding in place to build both phases of the development in one go," he said. "If all goes to plan we hope to start building this summer."

NEWS in brief

Writer is delving into town's past

'VERY old Stourbridge' will come under the microscope in a ground breaking talk at a historical group meeting.

Roy Peacock, a former president of Stourbridge Historical Society, has been delving into the town's past from the Stone Age to the Middle Ages. Mr Peacock, who used to lecture at King Edward VI Sixth Form College, is soon to publish a book on the town. The meeting will be held at the Amblecote Room in Stourbridge Town Hall on February 20 at 7.30pm.

Cinema is sold again in £7m deal

THE Odeon multiplex cinema at the Merry Hill shopping centre in Brierley Hill has changed hands for the second time in three months. Property investor LondonMetric Property has sold the cinema for £7.7 million to clients of Aberdeen Asset Management.

The 10 screen, 40,200 sq ft cinema remains let to Odeon Cinemas for a remaining term of 24years with no breaks. The building was one of 10 Odeons bought by LondonMetric in 2013 for £80.6m

Wives hearing variety of talks

HAGLEY Wives and Women's Fellowship will hear from Sandy Cale about 'The Great Escape of Charles II after the Battle of Worcester' on February 11. On February 25 Nic Yates will talk about being an Olympic torch bearer and, on March 11, Angela Hugman will speak on life as a physiotherapist. More information from Toni Allison on 01562 884079.

Only here for the beards and beer

THE winners of a beard of the year contest run by a Black Country brewery will be announced on March 1. Upper Gornal-based Fownes Brewing Company is holding a presentation at The Wheatsheaf pub in Birmingham Road, Walsall. The brewery at the rear of the Jolly Crispin pub launched the competition a year ago.

Brewery festival

A NEW brewery is to hold a spring beer festival. Green Duck Brewery in Stourbridge will host the event at its Badelynge Bar in Rufford Road from March 27 to 29. Beers from 11 breweries will be sold.

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NEWS FEATURE

IN MY VIEW

WITH MARK ANDREWS

MEANWHILE, Manchester United star Ashley Young has been handed a six-month diving ban. Sorry, I mean a driving ban. Whatever was I thinking of?

I'LL leave it to others to comment on the rights and wrongs of railway union leader Bob Crow for masterminding a tube strike while sunning himself in Brazil while wearing a rather dubious pair of Bermuda shorts.

What I will observe though is that a few years ago Bob was among the speakers at a day to mark the 100th anniversary of the Cradley chainmakers' strike. In the early 20th century, the mainly female workers of the Black Country chain industry lived in abject poverty, working back-breaking hours in squalid conditions for a pittance of pay, and it fell to Mary MacArthur, the daughter of a wealthy Scottish draper, to take on their oppressive bosses.

Aside from the fact that Bob turned what should have been a fascinating celebration of Black Country history into a bellicose political rally, he also throughout the duration of his long-winded speech, repeatedly referred to his heroine as 'Mary McCarthy'.

Considering he was such a big admirer, you might have thought he would have least got her name right.

A SIX-year-old boy has been suspended from school for taking a packet of Mini Cheddars in his lunch box. Riley Pearson's parents have now been summoned to the headmaster's study after the youngster was banned for not having a 'healthy and balanced' packed lunch.

Excuse me? Since when did a headmaster's remit extend to policing our dietary habits? If it were up to me, I would be telling him to ditch the Mini Cheddars and to tuck into some good old pork scratchings like a proper Black Country mon, but each to their own, live and let live and all that. This really does take the biscuit.

BRITAIN'S most tattooed man is not a happy bunny after being refused a new passport having changed his name by deed poll. It seems officials did not consider 'King of Ink Land King Body Art The Extreme Ink-Ite' to be a proper name, and suggested that he should continue calling himself Mathew Whelan instead.

Apparently, Body - as he is known to his friends - has spent £30,000 on making himself look about as ridiculous as is humanly possible. His face is now entirely covered with a green psychedelic pattern, apart from two small holes for his eyes. And he has a couple of clumps of hair on his head, which look like a pair of freshly grown spring onions.

Mr Art says he needs a passport as it is intention to work overseas. As what? A scarecrow?

Woolworths in High Street, Bilston, now an Argos

Poundland has replaced Walsall's Woolworths store

Site of the old Woolworths in Dudley, now Plaza Mall

Woolies filled but never replaced

How have the stores fared since they closed five years ago? **WILL ACKERMANN** has been finding out

IT WAS the store everybody knew and loved, a British institution dating back 100 years.

In its heyday, Woolworths was as much a feature of the UK high street as the pavements and lampposts themselves.

But it has now been five years since that fateful day when the nation's favourite retailer went bust and had to close its 807 stores, with the loss of more than 30,000 jobs. The news was mourned by shoppers far and wide, while retail analysts warned it was a sign of worse to come as consumers began tightening their purse strings.

Unfortunately, they were proved right as other high-street giants have fallen victim to the recession.

But now that the dust has settled since Woolworths entered administration in 2009, what has become of all its empty units? Sadly, across the country more than 100 of them remain vacant and a further 68 have been demolished.

Others, however, have become home to new shops, many of them bargain stores – showing how shoppers these days want to spend a penny, rather than a pound. Low price bargains are their unique selling points.

Budget supermarket Iceland has occupied the highest number of former Woolies premises nationally, with 59. Close behind with 57 is Willenhall-based Poundland, while in at third is 99p Stores, which has 47. Fourth is B&M Bargains, with 43.

But Will Roberts, of the British Retail Consortium, said stores catering for those with more expensive tastes are also sprouting up. He said: "Although a number of vacant stores have been taken over by discount traders in recent years, we are also seeing high end stores such as Hotel Chocolat opening up new premises." The BRC's latest figures from October show 13 per cent of commercial properties remain vacant in town and city centres in the West Midlands and Staffordshire.

Discount UK Home Store has taken over the old Woolworths in Wolverhampton

However, many of the stores once adorned with Woolies' iconic red and white signs have been snapped up by other occupants.

Before appointing administrators, the company had outlets in Wolverhampton, Wednesfield, Bilston, Walsall, Bloxwich, Blackheath, Bearwood, Wednesbury, Dudley, Halesowen, Brierley Hill, Kidderminster, Stafford, Lichfield and Cannock.

Of those 15 premises, two are occupied by discount grocery and frozen food retailer Bargain Foods; two are run by rent-to-own retailer BrightHouse, where customers can bag anything from a television set to a three-piece suite in weekly payments; two are Poundlands; with the remaining home to Discount UK, Argos, Heron Frozen Foods, Tesco, a Plaza Mall, a YMCA charity shop, Sports Direct and B&M Bargains.

The final Woolies staff barely had time to pack up their belongings and leave the door, before some units were re-occupied, with others taking longer to attract new owners. Bosses at the Mander Centre, Wolverhampton struggled to fill the vacant unit left by Woolworths, and for three years it sat empty.

The centre itself was built in the 1960s, but Woolworths had already been trading long before it opened. The store became one of the biggest Woolworths branches in the West Midlands.

When it closed its doors, up to 40 workers lost their jobs. There was a glimmer of hope when businessman Tony Swannie, who runs the Aldridge based Plaza Malls, suggested he might open another Plaza Mall in the old store, but the deal fell through.

It was only in October 2012 that budget chain Discount UK stepped in to bring the shop back to life. The store, which sells items priced from 28p to £25, created 40 jobs when it took over the vacant unit.

It did not take quite as long for those in Wednesfield and Bilston to be filled. In September 2009, the unit in Bilston was take over by catalogue shop Argos which had been relocated from 55-57 Church Street. Whereas in Wednesfield the discount grocery and frozen foods shop Bargain Foods took over the High Street unit.

In contrast to Wolverhampton, the high street locations of many of the Woolworths stores in Sandwell were quickly pounced upon. The first was in Blackheath, where Heron Frozen Foods transformed the High Street venue in May 2009.

In Bearwood, Tesco created 12 jobs when it opened an Express store in the former Woolworths in September 2009. In June of that year, Caversham Finance, which runs the rent-to-buy store Brighthouse, took over the Wednesbury's empty Woolworths shop on Market Place.

The Shop Direct Group bought the Woolworths and Ladybird brands, securing their futures online, but the high street will never look the same again.

THROUGH THE YEARS

1984

CONTROVERSIAL plans were revealed to convert a disused church in Wolverhampton into part of a giant supermarket.

Sainsbury's said the scheme for St George's Church would create 200 new jobs.

THE halfpenny coin was to be discontinued, Chancellor Nigel Lawson announced. Traders in the West Midlands showed little regret at its passing.

ENGINEERING workers leader Terry Duffy called for a 26-hour working week during a debate organised by Tettenhall Rotary Club. But he said it would do nothing to stop unemployment soaring to five or six million by the end of the 1980s.

1994

WOLVERHAMPTON Labour MP Dennis Turner called on all eight directors of the company which made Banks's beer to resign after they accepted huge pay increases. Mr Turner attacked David Thompson, managing director of Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries, for accepting a £912 pay rise at a time when the Government had been urging executives to keep a lid on their earnings.

KIDDERMINSTER Harriers proved the romance of the FA Cup was alive and well by knocking Preston North End out of the competition with a 1-0 win at Aggborough, securing a place in the Fifth Round.

2004

THE audience of the US Superbowl stared in disbelief as Justin Timberlake 'accidentally' tore Janet Jackson's dress during the half-time entertainment, exposing her breast. Jackson later admitted that the stunt had been planned in advanced, and apologised if she had offended anybody.

THE 500th free burglar alarm was installed in a crime-plagued area of Wolverhampton. Extra locks were also fitted to homes in All Saints, Blakenhall and Parkfields.

FORMER Wolves captain Geoff Thomas was said to be recovering well in hospital after receiving a bone marrow transplant with his nurse sister Kay Hill. The player, who lived in Bromsgrove, had been diagnosed with leukaemia the previous year and the operation was his only chance of a complete cure.

WOLVES manager Dave Jones was said to be furious after his son sold Kenny Miller's shirt from the victory over Manchester United to a dealer over the internet. He believed it was going to a charity but the shirt was sold on eBay for £6,600.

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Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Managing Director Brian Stanley feels that it's all about service. 'Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done.

We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Brian a call for a free quotation on **0800 61 21 118** and he'll be happy to help!

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LETTERS

Slimmer and more effective government

THE West Midlands is being denied a say about its future;.it is excluded from the debate about the future of Scotland and its implications for the rest of the UK. It is also excluded from any debate about the future of local government, some of which is facing bankruptcy and massive cuts in services.

Whatever the outcome of the Scottish referendum, Scotland and Wales will get more powers which will have implications for the future of Westminster and subnational Government in England.

Sub national Government in England is weak. It is a complex jigsaw of largely anonymous local councils and unelected quangos. Local government is struggling to survive, quangos are controlled from Westminster and have very limited, if any, credibility or capacity to really influence public policy and the way private monopolies — including the energy companies control our lives.

Our local authorities are either too small to deal effectively with national and regional challenges or too large to connect with the local.

Why in the West Midlands with a population of 5 million — the same as Scotland — do we have four police forces compared with one in Scotland? Why do we have nearly 60 MPs, thousands of councillors and members of quangos all paid by the tax payer? Major surgery is needed.

This has to include a system of regional and local government which is slimmer and far more effective. This has to be balanced by a significant downsizing and refocusing at Westminster on UK business with fairer voting for all levels of Government. We don't need more politicians but better government.

G MORRAN
Dudley

Tendency to forget repair bills

READING the article about the Trafalgar Court flats has brought me to comment on the ongoing maintenance of private property. With the fall in interest rates more people have been encouraged to enter the buy-to-let market but what happens as these properties need work and money spent on them? Private landlords may not have saved money to keep their properties in good order, or they may be faced with having to spend on their own dwelling and have to choose which property gets the money. Meanwhile the tenant is still paying the full rent on what could be a sub-standard home.

I also think we could have a time bomb with older people owning their own home but not having an income for the necessary repairs. It is great that home ownership has become possible for working class people but it comes with a big responsibility.

R GWILLIAMS
Brierley Hill

LETTERS to the Editor

POST
Dudley Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

E-MAIL
Dudley.chron@expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Now get rid of all the useless windmills

REGARDING the letter from R Taberner, I do not think you will find that extreme weather events are more frequent. The out of a job if they couldn't produce any evidence, however far-fetched.

I gather the Arctic icecap is rather substantial and it looks as though the Antarctic midsummer is still cold enough to leave ship loads of tourists trapped in ice for days.

The so-called problem is blamed on carbon dioxide but they don't tell us that this gas which is vital for all life on earth. As 'global warming' has now been swept under the carpet to join 'acid rain' and the 'ozone layer', let us hope 'climate change' is soon to join them in the dustbin of history.

I agree that we must rethink energy policies. First of all, abandon those useless windmills. Then ignore the EU directives to close perfectly operational conventional power stations and get new nuclear power stations built soon, preferably by British firms. Or else the lights will go out!

A WILKINS
Buttermere Close
Brierley Hill

Chaos at hospital's car park

REGARDING the article in your paper, about the closure of the Holly Hall walk-in clinic, Mr Paul Maubach and the Dudley health bosses, need to start visiting Russells Hall regularly.

My sister has been an in-patient for the last nine weeks, myself and all family members have been visiting twice every day. Afternoon visiting you cannot get a parking space, Monday to Friday it can't cope, now with the clinics and visiting, how do they expect it to add more to this, by closing the walk-in clinic?

You know the old saying, if it's not broke don't mend it, and the walk-in clinic is doing a splendid service.

The first seven weeks of my sister's stay there was only one barrier working on the access side to the car park. Nothing to do with the hospital but the charges you have to pay you would think this could be repaired quicker. It caused chaos.

V CARTWRIGHT
Dudley

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CLUB NEWS

Unexpected tales come to rescue

BLACKHEATH M TWG

THE guild meeting on Wednesday January 22 was opened by the club's chairman Doreen Armstrong at 10.30am.

Doreen welcomed members and visitors, a good turnout despite the cold weather.

Monthly reports were given by treasurer Beryl Hartley and Press officer Iris Harris. Everyone was wished a Happy New Year and all agreed what a good time was had at the Christmas party.

Usually at the end of business our chairman introduces the speaker for the day, but the one lined up had unfortunately retired and was no longer available.

In true guild spirit, the ladies did not despair and a solution was found. The problem was solved by Beryl, who entertained everyone with a sample of 'Tales of the Unexpected' – an old television series.

She told four stories of strange and unusual happenings in her lifetime which were quite enthralling and a bit spooky.

A good round of applause was given to Beryl, and the meeting was closed at noon.

After that, the ladies were ready for their tea, coffee and biscuits before going home

The next guild meeting will be on Wednesday, February 26 at the Moose Hall, Beeches Road, Blackheath, at 10.30am.

All visitors will be made welcome.

Hear ye of Town Crier's traditions

The origins of the Walsall Town Crier was the talk topic

WEST BROM CENTRAL

CHAIRMAN Joyce Brown opened the first meeting of 2014 by welcoming members and wishing them a healthy and prosperous New Year.

It was agreed by all present that the Christmas meeting had been extremely enjoyable with West Bromwich Central being joined by 12 members of the Wednesbury Guild with an interesting and informative talk on Christmas traditions past and present.

The annual New Year hamper raffle was won by vice-chairman Joan Cashmore, which was followed by tea and refreshments during which members were able to hear about the origins and duties of the Walsall official Town Crier and inspect various items of regalia associated with the role. A vote of thanks to the speaker was endorsed by members.

The next meeting will be on Monday, February 10, at 2 p.m. at Moose Hall, Woodward Street, with a talk on amateur films. Further details may be obtained on 0121 588 2692.

Talk lives up to expectations

HAWNE 'E' TOWNSWOMEN

THE Christmas party was held on December 9. The business part of the meeting was kept as short as possible so members could get to the buffet.

All those attending had bought in a plate of food to contribute and as always the food was gorgeous.

The ladies were then entertained by Halesowen Ukulele Band who played skiffle, rock & roll and some Christmas songs. The chairman welcomed three visitors to January's meeting and announced that subscription fees will be the same as last year. Members were reminded about the Federation St George's Day lunch.

John Billingham's talks are always eagerly looked forward to, and his talk on the Journey from Old Hill to Dudley lived up to expectations. The next meeting is on Monday, February 17.

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NEWS

Europe's largest Hindu temple aims to expand

Development plans – The largest Hindu temple in Europe the Shri Venkateswara (Balaji) temple in Tividale

IT is Europe's biggest Hindu temple and used by hundreds of people.

And now plans have been submitted for the creation of a yoga and meditation centre at Shri Venkateswara (Balaji) Temple in Tividale.

Faith leaders want to construct the two-storey Peace Temple on land in Dudley Road East. It would be used to practice and teach yoga and meditation and would be able to accommodate almost 100 people.

Planning documents submitted to Sandwell Council state the temple complex is open to the public regardless of faith.

The building is designed to provide for 37 people in the yoga class area on the ground floor and for 57 people in the meditation area on the first floor.

Increase

The Peace Temple is not expected to increase the number of visitors to the complex at any one time or on occasions and the meditation space is designed to serve those who already visit the temple. Yoga classes will be held during designated times.

The documents add: "The Peace Temple is to complement the existing use of the site.

"As a place for meditation and contemplation, the proposal will support and enhance the spiritual nature of the site by adding to the existing facility to the visitors."

It is the latest expansion of the site which was also given approval to build a £500,000 one-storey building last year.

Leaders at the temple will build a Yagashala building, which caters for a special ceremony to introduce babies to the faith.

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THE WAY I SEE IT

Broad shoulders must bear more of the burden

Dudley North Labour MP Ian Austin takes the stand in our weekly Chronicle column which gives our local representatives the chance to air their views

"When taxes have gone up for ordinary families in Dudley, it cannot make sense to give the richest people a huge tax cut"

GEORGE Osborne is celebrating signs that the economy has finally started growing after he started slashing budgets three years ago. That's good news but from speaking to local families I know how hard people are struggling to make ends meet.

Prices are rising, wages are falling and everyday families are £1,600 per year worse off. The government keep trying to tell people they are better off, but it's no use when their own experience tells them the opposite.

The government just doesn't understand what people are going through in places like Dudley and they always seem to stand up for the wrong people. That's why they cut income tax for people earning over £150,000 a year. That meant a £100,000 tax cut to millionaires.

At a time when the deficit is high and taxes have gone up for ordinary families in Dudley, it cannot make sense to give the richest people in the country such a huge tax cut. David Cameron has even refused to rule out further cutting taxes for people on over £150,000. Having already given the richest one per cent one huge tax cut, it's now clear he wants to give them another one.

We need to get the deficit down,but in a fairer way. Asking those with the broadest shoulders to bear a greater share of the burden is a very important part of that.

I also want a lower 10p starting rate of tax which would help make work pay and cut taxes for 24 million people on middle and lower incomes.

But we have to spend responsibly too. I want the next government to commit to balancing the books, delivering a surplus on the current budget and getting the national debt falling.

A FEW weeks ago I wrote about the housing crisis facing Dudley. I wanted to find out what problems people were really facing, so I sent a housing consultation to thousands of local residents. Their responses really brought home the scale of the problem. Nearly three quarters of everyone who got in touch said that they either can't save enough for deposit or couldn't afford mortgage repayments even if they could.

That shouldn't be surprising when average house prices are nine times the average wage in our area. Even those on the housing ladder had serious concerns. Eight in ten said they were worried they couldn't afford a rise in interest rates, and seven in ten were worried they would have to sell their house to afford social care later in life.

The people I surveyed had lots of ideas on how to get the cost of housing down, and I back 'use it or lose it' policies to make sure that land and derelict property aren't lying vacant.

But one thing came through loud and clear – 86 per cent wanted more homes built in our area.

I want the government to make an ambitious commitment to building 200,000 new homes and I want as many as possible of those to replace derelict land in Dudley.

WHEN Gornal resident Diane Whittaker contacted me with concerns about accidents and near misses on the bend where Church Street and Temple Street meet in Upper Gornal, I got on to local Labour representatives Stuart Turner, Dave Branwood and Serena Craigie. Diane and other residents reported that cars were hitting the wall outside St Peter and the English Martyrs Church as often as once a week. With help from Diana and other residents we launched a petition that attracted 500 signatures.

Dudley Council has announced a review of speed reduction measures on the bend and will consider introducing new signs, road markings and changes to kerb lines. I think that's a great sign of what we can achieve when we work together. Call me on 01384 342 503 or email austini@parliament.uk

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NEWS

Student wins a place at an American college

Go west — Dan Hughes, from Haybridge High School, Hagley, is pictured with deputy head Rob Lightfoot

DELIGHTED student Dan Hughes will be swapping Worcestershire for the USA when he takes up a dream university place.

The pupil at Haybridge Sixth Form in Hagley has been chosen for a funded spot at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut.

The 18-year-old said: "I don't think words can describe quite how elated I feel."

Last summer he was one of 150 students who were selected from 1,200 applicants through the Sutton Trust US Programme to experience a week at Yale University as a student on campus. This was followed by an intensive programme delivered in the UK by the US-UK Fulbright Commission to help him to make his college choice and prepare for crucial admissions tests.

Deputy headteacher Rob Lightfoot said: 'This is the opportunity of a lifetime We are thrilled for Dan and congratulate him – he is a talented and hard-working student who will make the most of this opportunity.'

Dan, of Hagley will be studying Liberal Studies and has received funding from the Sutton Trust. He said: "I would like to thank the fantastic team at Sutton Trust for their support and the extraordinarily generous financial offer to make my dream come true. If hearing about my success can encourage someone else to apply for the programme I would be delighted."

The aim of the US programme is to encourage academically talented, low and middle income British students to study at American universities. Chairman Sir Peter Lampl said, 'As well as offering a fantastic opportunity for some of our brightest young people, this lights a beacon for thousands of state school students who are genuine candidates for these universities.'

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NEWS

Historians want to give heroes their due

History enthusiast Martin Jones at the grave of Lance Corporal Stan Harris, one of Sedgley's First World War heroes

A CHURCH is marking the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War by finding out more about soldiers commemorated on a memorial.

Members of All Saints' Church in Sedgley are also seeking information on fallen servicemen whose names appear in the graveyard and at other churches in the village.

The church, in Vicar Street, has a plaque naming 70 Sedgley soldiers who died fighting for their country in the 1914 to 1918 conflict.

History enthusiasts say there are many more from Sedgley whose stories have not yet been told. They are asking relatives to come forward with information or photographs. The group will create an exhibition which will go on display in the summer at the Dudley Archives Centre.

Martin Jones, a member of the congregation and history enthusiast, said: "Every year on Remembrance Sunday we get about 400 people into the church and every single name on the memorial is read out. But what about the people whose names aren't on the list? Sedgley lads were deployed widely. While most of the dead were in the local South Staffordshire Regiment, some served in other regiments."

One of the soldiers to appear in the exhibition is Lance Corporal Stan Harris of the Staffordshire Yeomanry. He is not on the memorial at All Saints' but is commemorated on a family grave in Gospel End Street. He died in the assault on Damascus in September 1918, which features in the film Lawrence of Arabia.

Anyone with information on the 1914-18 heroes can contact Mr Jones at mmjones29@blueyonder.co.uk

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NEWS

Serious and slimline Lenny wins award

It's a snarling, slimline Lenny Henry as you've never seen him before in the play Fences

LENNY Henry has revealed that he has shed three stone after being diagnosed with diabetes as he picked up a prestigious acting award.

The 55-year-old Dudley-born comic, turned serious actor, now eats sugar-free food and has started Ashtanga yoga to battle the disease that cost his late mother both her legs.

He said: "I'm a bit diabetic, so I was put on a very strict diet. I've lost between two-and-a-half and three stone. I was big.

"It's lots of greens, lots of juice and lots of walking. Swimming is good.

"You've got to eat no sugar and drink hardly any alcohol… all the stuff you like. You can't Hobnob your way through the day."

Speaking at the Critics' Circle Theatre Awards, where he won the best actor for his role in August Wilson's American drama Fences, Lenny revealed how his mother Winifred suffered from diabetes, which can cause artery problems, for seven years and had a double leg amputation before she died in 1998.

Fences won rave reviews when the play toured the UK after opening at the Theatre Royal, Bath, and later transferred to the Duchess Theatre in London.

Campaign to rescue church in call for help

DOZENS of letters of support calling for a community group to take over a landmark Dudley church have been lodged but campaigners urge more people to have their say.

St John's Church Preservation Group wants to take on responsibility for the grade II listed building.

The Diocese of Worcester agreed to the formal closure of the building as a place of worship and now the preservation group plans to re-open the building for use by the community. But before they can begin work, the group must now get final approval from the Church Commissioners. A consultation is taking place to get the views of the public on the scheme.

by Heather Large

Preservation group chairman Deb Brownlee is appealing for people to show support. There have been around 80 positive responses and no objections. The deadline is February 17.

Mrs Brownlee said: "We want to leave the Church Commissioners in no doubt that the passion for the re-opening of St John's is still there, even after this very long campaign, and we urge people to help us over this last hurdle by writing or emailing their support for us to be given a lease."

Although the church closed in 2002 due to safety concerns, recent surveys have shown the nave and chancel are structurally sound.

The group is aiming to keep it historically intact and re-open it for Christian worship, tourism and community use.

The group's patron, historian Professor Carl Chinn, said: "We are on the threshold of a great community action success and I urge people to answer this call for support letters and emails."

Send email to katie.lowe@churchofengland.org or write to Katie Lowe, Pastoral, Church House, Great Smith Street, London, SW1P 3AZ.

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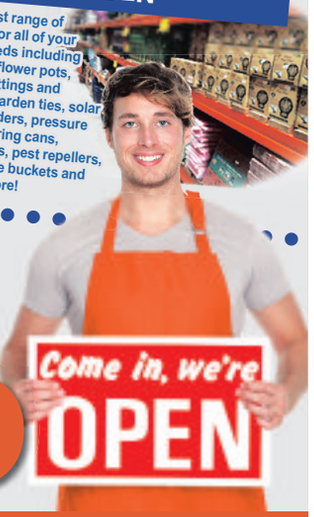

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NEWS

Tribute paid to male stripper who inspired art

THE male stripper whose risque show in a Dudley pub inspired one of Britain's best-loved paintings has died at the age of 87.

Andy Wade was thought to be Britain's first male stripper.

His performance at Saltwells Inn in 1974 is thought to have been the basis for Ladies' Night, one of the most instantly recognisable paintings by novelty artist Beryl Cook.

The moment was captured on camera at the time by Express & Star man Graham Gough, and attracted worldwide attention after the pictures were reproduced in The Sun and German tabloid Bild.

Characters

It was then picked up by Cook, who was famous for her cartoon-like paintings featuring larger-than-life characters in different situations. Mr Wade, real name John Hotchkiss, later went on to work as an extra in the television series 'Allo 'Allo. He lived in the Northfield area of Birmingham before later moving to Wales.

Mr Gough, who lives in Kinver, paid tribute to the performer, saying he was a master showman. "He was a nice bloke, really good fun to work with," he said. "I met him a couple of times afterwards. He always said the picture had done him a lot of good, he had received a lot of work as a result of it."

Mr Gough, who is 74, was told by a friend of Beryl Cook's that the artist had bought a large print of his photograph. "He said she had decided to do something on it after seeing the photograph. She didn't copy the picture but she did get the idea from it. It's quite flattering."

He said it was one of his favourite photographs, and won the Midlands News Picture of the Year award for 1975.

He remembers it being quite a daunting job to work on but says that was probably part of the appeal.

"When we took that picture there were just us two blokes there among all those women, and it got a bit frisky. I was quite glad to get out of there with all my clothes on. There are some great expressions on the faces of the women," he said. Mr Wade died on January 18. Ladies' Night, which was released in 1980, was one of Cook's most instantly recognisable images, capturing the the astonishment and hilarity of the moment a male stripper reveals all. The artist was adept at capturing moments in time, creating a picture postcard quality that made her a favourite for calendars and posters.

Cook died in 2008 at the age of 81. Once described by Victoria Wood as 'Rubens with jokes', Cook portrayed a world of innocent naughtiness that divided critics but established her as a firm favourite with the public, who never tired of the cards and reproductions of her work. Her paintings featured on postage stamps along with Renoir and Rodin but never in the Tate or the National galleries.

The famous picture of Andy Wade

Beryl Cook's Ladies' Night painting

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NEWS

Tiger talk is a bostin' good idea at the zoo

Dudley Zoo assistant curator Richard Brown teaches Joao the Sumatran Tiger some of the local lingo

OWAMYA, Joao? Keepers at Dudley Zoo are brushing up on their Black Country dialect by practising the local lingo on their new Sumatran tiger.

The 22-month-old big cat transferred from Krefeld Zoo in Germany 11 weeks ago, and is gradually adapting from his native German to Black Country 'spake'.

In readiness for July 14's Black Country Day, assistant curator, Richard Brown – a Tipton lad – is going over familiar phrases with Joao. Among them is 'ere's yer fittle' ,which translates as 'here's your lunch', and we'm a gooin wum' which is 'we're off home'.

The zoo's head of media and communications Jill Hitchman said: "As the Black Country's favourite zoo, Dudley 's keen to support local events highlighting the area. Since the zoo opened in 1937 we have featured in the photo albums of most families in the Black Country throughout those seven decades."

She added: "Joao is now learning 'ere's yer fittle' and 'tara a bit, we'm a gooin wum' from big cat keepers, which translates as 'here's your lunch' and 'bye for now, we're off home'. He'll be pretty much used to the local language come summer!" Staff will be spreading the word with Keeper For a Day experiences throughout July, which sees animal fans from across the world shadowing personnel at the zoo.

Jill said: "Staff will be introducing folk from across the country and indeed, overseas visitors, to a little local dialect and teaching them 'owamya' and 'tara fer now' as they arrive and leave the site.

"It's all good fun but it's also a chance to let people know about the Black Country, its strong community, characters and identity."

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MEMORY LANE

Cyril and his wife Eva who brought up Darrell from when he was a baby

The iconic Molineux Road Stand where Cyril bought Darell his first season ticket E4 under the old clock

Wolves hat-trick hero Terry Wharton

A chance meeting at Molineux led to a friendship between Cyril and rock legend Robert Plant

Cyril inspired a lifelong devotation of Wanderers

HIS devotion to the boys in old gold and black was second to none.

by Peter Madeley

An old soldier born and bred in the Black Country with a love for proper pork scratchings, Banks's Mild and Pavarotti.

Cyril Yates died in March 2003, aged 84, after suffering with Alzheimer's disease for a number of years, but his memory still shines brightly in the heart of his 'son' Darrell.

"He was always a very proud man," said Darrell, a Wolves season ticket holder who used to write under the pseudonym JIWAL - John Ireland Whinge A Lot - in the fanzine A Load Of Bull. "Dad was a strict disciplinarian with a dry sense of humour."

Darrell was actually Cyril's grandson, but he believed him to be his father until the age of nine because Cyril and his wife Eva had looked after him from birth.

"Cyril raised me and in my eyes he will always be my dad," said Darrell, s a finance manager for Poplars, Cannock. "And it is certainly down to him that I developed such a passion for the Wolves!" Cyril was born in Dixon's Green, Dudley, in 1918. After Second World War service in the army he worked at Bean Factory, Tipton, and Ratcliff's, Eagle Lane, Great Bridge.

Darrell, 55, said Cyril played cricket for Dudley in the Birmingham Cricket League. But his main sporting love was Wolverhampton Wanderers – an obsession he passed on to a nine-year-old Darrell in 1966. "That was the year he took me to my first game," said Darrell, from Dudley.

"We beat Cardiff 7-1 and Terry Wharton scored a hat-trick. I suppose that's when I got the bug! The following season he bought me my first season ticket."

One early recollection involves a young Darrell approaching the legendary comedian TommyTrinder, who was chairman of Fulham at the time. Darrell said: "My dad told me to go and get Trinder's autograph as he came out onto the car park of the old social club. But when I approached him he bellowed 'out of my way, sonny!' and brushed me aside like paper. "My dad gave him the biggest verbal volley of all time – I was really shocked at the colourful language – and I remember Trinder's trademark trilby hat falling off his head!

"After that dad would turn off the TV whenever Trinder appeared on screen."

At the late 70s Cyril stopped going to games because of the hooliganism but he was persuaded to return for the fourth division play-off final against Aldershot in 1987. "He was hooked again," said father-of-four Darrell. Before the game he was approached by rock legend Robert Plant, who asked if the seats next to them were taken. It was the start of a lasting friendship .

Cyril died just two months before his beloved Wolves won the play-off final in Cardiff to book a return to the top flight of English football for the first time in 21 years. Darrell regularly visits his parents' grave at Tipton Cemetery to keep Cyril up to date about Wolves. Darrell said: "I always think of my prized possession growing up as being my season ticket in seat E4 under the old clock in the Molineux Street Stand."

Cyril did not see the funny side when comedian Tommy Trinder was rude to Darrell

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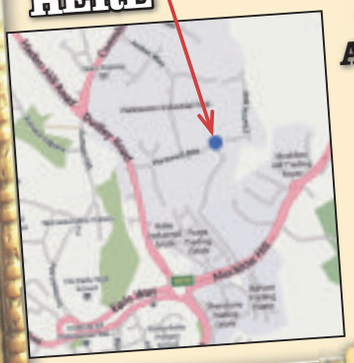

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Comedy purist Delaney is quick off the draw

QUICK-OFF-THE-DRAW comic Gary Delaney brings his razor-sharp wit to Wolverhampton later this month.

A double Sony Award winner and Chortle Award nominee – and the husband of Sarah Millican – Delaney has become a regular face on the likes of Mock the Week and in 2013 also featured on Dave TV's Top 10 Jokes of the Fringe List.

He brings his 'Purist' tour to Wolverhampton's Slade Rooms on Thursday, February 20, with dates at other new locations including "cool places Kidderminster, Norwich and the Isle of Wight, pretty much the same route Beyonce would be taking I imagine," quipped Delaney.

The 40-year-old Solihull-born funnyman always looks forward to performing in this part of the world, describing it as one of the best areas of the country for comedy.

"For me the best areas of the UK for comedy are the North East and the West Midlands. Both really responsive up for it crowds, who are clever enough to get more subtle jokes and unpretentious enough to not be offended by the naughty bits." He also praised Birmingham Glee Club's new material night, where is latest musings are trialled, one Sunday a month in the little Studio Room.

Gary Delaney, who will be at the Slade Rooms on February 20

"It's an amazing atmosphere," he said. "It's important to have nights like this, so you can edit out all the chaff before the paying punters come to see you on tour. They only want to hear the gold obviously."

But does he prefer Wolverhampton or Birmingham? "Can I split the difference and say Dudley?" he answered.

Off the stage, Delaney admits to being a bit of a geek, sitting in his office writing jokes. "I also enjoy regularly deleting my browser history," he said.

Delaney added he also held an unhealthy interest in zombies and had written a Zombie-themed sketch show for children."

He is now pitching some ideas to TV executives in the hope of re-establishing the sketch-based format. But what does he miss most when he's on the road? "Vegetables, my cats, my wife, and I probably shouldn't have put those in that order."

Doors open at 7pm and tickets are £15.40 from 0870 320 7000 or at box office@wolvescivic.co.uk

Display to mark RAF centenary

RAF Museum Cosford will announce details of the special projects at Valentine's Day launch

RAF Museum Cosford will bring in new exhibits as part of a 'transformation project' to mark the centenary of the Royal Air Force.

It has joined forces with aerospace company BAE Systems, which is set to fund new attractions to mark the milestone.

Details of the project will be released on Valentine's Day at a reception at the museum. It is expected to include new displays as well as projects involving schools and the wider community.

Michelle Morgans, from RAF Museum Cosford, said: "There are going to be lots of projects over the coming few years, and they will all build up to 2018 for the centenary of the RAF."

Miss Morgans said the museum is not yet releasing information about the partnership with BAE Systems but they will be revealed at the launch this month.

Attraction

BAE Systems is already involved in the installation of the EAP aircraft, which was a predecessor to the Eurofighter Typhoon, and has been on display in the museum since late last year. The EAP attraction will also be officially launched on February 14.

Chris Boardman, managing director at BAE Systems, said he was 'delighted' to be able to work alongside the RAF museum on the two projects.

No details are available on the RAF centenary project, although he said the EAP exhibit showed how the two organisations had co-operated.

He said: "The EAP was fundamental in developing many of the ground-breaking design characteristics and capabilities that we now see in today's Eurofighter Typhoon."

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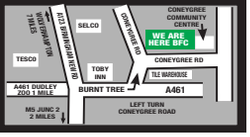

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Going west to explore France

LEON BURAKOWSKI sails Brittany Ferries to look at destinations on the French Atlantic coast

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Visit the D-Day beaches or turn north for the enchanting fishing port of Honfleur, or maybe you prefer to follow the sun to the south.

Whether heading west into Celtic Brittany, the French equivalent of Cornwall, or south-west to the Loire Valley and long sandy Atlantic beaches of the Vendee and Poitou-Charentes — do take time to stop off at the magical Mont St Michel, with its ancient abbey on an island linked to the mainland by a causeway, or the castle at Fougeres, one of the finest fortresses in Europe.

The city of Nantes is a must for steampunk fans because of the Les Machines de L'ile where you can clamber aboard a massive mechanical elephant that walks around the former dockyards. The fantasy engineering is inspired by science fiction pioneer Jules Verne, a son of Nantes. It's not worth the extra fee to see the workshops but you pay separately for the elephant and ocean themed carousel.

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The resorts of the Vendee beckon you to a land of shellfish and wine, or carry on to the A-list Ile de Re, where France's VIPs spend their holidays on a pretty island reached by a vertigo-inducing toll bridge. Next is the harbour city of La Rochelle, where you can take boat trips to the tiny Ile d'Aix and circumnavigate Fort Boyard, or head into the marshes to the walled town of Brouage and imagine yourself as one of the musketeers.

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What's On!

Boogie woogie blues and jazz

BRIT blues legends Nine Below Zero are in concert at Bilston's Robin 2 venue on Friday, February 14, with special guest boogie woogie pianist Ben Waters, who was asked to play at Jools Holland's wedding.

Tickets are £13 in advance or £15 on the door. Call 01902 401211 or go to www.therobin.co.uk. Support will come from the Keith Thompson Band.

Also coming up at the Mount Pleasant venue are Brum's jive jazz specialists King Pleasure & the Biscuit Boys tonight (Thursday). On February 13 Sons Of Cream visit. This tribute group features the offspring of 60s supergroup Cream – Kofi Baker (son of Ginger) on drums, Malcolm Bruce (son of Jack) on bass and Eric Clapton's nephew Will Johns on guitar.

Lemmy's illness halts Motorhead

BRITISH rockers Motorhead have had to cancel their rescheduled Wolverhampton gig because of singer and bassist Lemmy's health issues. The concert at the Civic Hall was originally planned for November last year but was postponed until February 17 but that too has been axed as the entire spring European tour has been called off.

A spokesperson for the band said that Lemmy Kilmister had continuing health issues linked to his diabetes and had reluctantly accepted medical advice that it was too soon to tour. Refunds are available from points of purchase.

Chills and thrills of tales to haunt the Grand audiences

Hear the best of the new

THE music scene really takes off this month after the January lull with some of the best young bands and solo performers on the way to the West Midlands.

Guitar-slingers The Boxer Rebellion, with album Promises and new single Keep Moving under their belts, play Birmingham's O2 Academy tonight (Friday). Polyrhythmic Oxford outfit Foals are at the Bristol Street venue on Tuesday and Manchester's The 1975, who had a hit last year with Chocolate and soon release new single Settle Down, are in concert at the O2 venue on Wednesday.

Long Way Down chart-topper Tom Odell is at Wolverhampton Civic Hall on Sunday with support from Fryars and James Bay. Super-cool trio London Grammar have a gig at the O2 Academy on February 16 and have added a date at Wolverhampton Civic on June 6.

Singer-songwriter Tom Odell has a concert at Wolverhampton Civic Hall this Sunday

TWO familiar actors will be presenting a double bill of classic spine-tingling ghost stories at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre.

From Wednesday to Saturday, February 12-15, the theatre will be haunted by eerie tales from Charles Dickens and MR James.

Veteran actor Jack Shepherd, who was the star of TV detective show Wycliffe, will be joined by Terrence Hardiman, who was BBCTV's The Demon Headmaster, for versions of The Signalman and Oh, Whistle and I'll Come To You, My Lad, both stories featuring terrifying ghosts. It is surely a must-see for anyone who enjoyed The Woman In Black or traditional Christmas TV ghost stories. There are nightly performances plus matinees on the Wednesday and Saturday, for those who would rather not venture into the dark after such spooky tales!

Jack Shepherd

Tickets range from £11.50 to £25.50, see www.grandtheatre.co.uk or call 01902 429212.

Denise Van Outen brings her one-woman 'play with music' Some Girls I Used To Know to Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre from Monday to Wednesday. She will also be bringing the show to the Grand from February 20 to 22, after the Wolverhampton theatre stages raunchy comedy 51 Shades of Maggie from February 17 to 19.

Top choreographer Matthew Bourne's all-male version of Swan Lake has extended its run at Birmingham Hippodrome from last night to February 15.

David Essex has a major dramatic role in new play The Dishwashers, written by Morris Panych and directed by Nikolai Foster, at Birmingham Rep until February 15. This witty drama looks at the men who scrub and scrape in the kitchen of an up-market London restaurant, including one former financial high-flyer who used to be a customer rather than a dishwasher.

Lady Gaga will be having a ball

GLOBAL pop superstar Lady Gaga is coming to Birmingham's city centre NIA as part of her artRave: The Artpop Ball Tour on October 15.

Tickets go on sale to the general public from 9am on Saturday, though O2 customers will get a three day headstart. Ticket prices will range from £35 to £90. See the www.livenation.co.uk website

A major music festival has also been announced for Birmingham this summer with rapper Kanye West topping the bill at the Wireless Festival in Perry Park, which takes place between July 4 and 6. Also on the bill will be fellow Americans and chart-toppers Pharrell Williams, Bruno Mars and Drake, plus British singers Ellie Goulding and John Newman.

Swingin' songs from US legend

FROM Rags to Ritzes, a celebration of American musical songbook great Irving Berlin, will be held at Birmingham's Symphony Hall on Tuesday featuring the BBC Concert Orchestra and narration from Radio 2's Leo Green. Guest singers include Sophie Evans, who was runner-up on BBCTV's Over The Rainbow, alongside Mary Carewe, Matthew Ford and Tom Langham.

City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra will also feature Berlin's music as part of their Songs for Swingin' Orchestra concert at the Symphony Hall on February 28. See www.thsh.co.uk for tickets.

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1. Mintel - Consumer Attitudes Towards Fine Dining - Jun 2011
2. Mintel - Eating Out Review - Jul 2012
3. Mintel - Eating Out - The Decision Making Process - Dec 2011
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What's On!

SATURDAY'S TV 8.02.14

Listings supplied by Press Association

CHOICE

Marvin Humes

The Voice UK
BBC1, 7.10pm

Who knows why Kylie Minogue signed up for this slick talent search, but thank heavens she did, because together with charming Kaiser Chief Ricky Wilson, she's been the short in the arm the show needed. And it perhaps goes without saying that Tom Jones and Will.i.am continue to deliver the goods, even if the latter's "dope" lingo is wearing thin. As ever, the judges will be giving their verdict on the potential stars with the golden tonsils, while staying immobile for those who don't rock their world. Emma Willis and Marvin Humes present the fifth set of Blind Auditions.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Food & Drink. (R) **12.00** Football Focus. **12.45** Saturday Sportsday. **1.00** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **1.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **2.00** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. Ireland v Wales (Kick-off 2.30pm). **4.30** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. Scotland v England (Kick-off 5.00pm).

6.55 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

7.10 The Voice UK. Emma Willis and Marvin Humes are backstage for the penultimate week of blind auditions, with Kylie Minogue, Will.i.am, Tom Jones and Ricky Wilson looking to bolster their teams.

8.35 The National Lottery: Who Dares Wins. Nick Knowles hosts the game show in which two pairs of strangers list as much as they know about given subjects. Including the Lotto and Thunderball draws, with Gaby Roslin.

9.25 Casualty. The medics examine a teenager hurt in a mountain-bike accident – only to come across old injuries that suggest he might be a victim of abuse. Jamie decides to leave for Australia.

10.15 BBC News; Weather.

10.30 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Liverpool v Arsenal at Anfield and Swansea City v Cardiff City at the Liberty Stadium; National Lottery Update.

12.00 The Football League Show. **1.20** Weatherview. **1.25** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 This Is BBC Two. **6.30 Film:** Annie Oakley. (1935) **8.00** Live Winter Olympics. Coverage of the opening day of the Games from Russia. **11.00** See Hear. **11.30** Great British Railway Journeys. (R) **12.00** The Great British Bake Off: The Winner's Story. (R) **1.00 Film:** Easy Virtue. (2008) **2.30** Live Winter Olympics. Further coverage of the opening day of the Games in Russia. **4.30** Final Score. **5.10** Live Winter Olympics.

7.00 Winter Olympics: Today at the Games. Clare Balding introduces highlights from the opening day in Russia, where the first five gold medals were decided in venues in Sochi and Krasnaya Polyana.

8.00 Torvill & Dean: The Perfect Day. Documentary telling the story behind ice-dancing duo Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean's gold medal-winning performance at the 1984 Winter Olympics in Sarajevo.

9.00 Dad's Army. Mainwaring decides the platoon needs a mascot for a big parade and plumps for a ram, but catching a suitable candidate for the job proves easier said than done. (R)

9.30 Hanif Kureishi: Writers Are Trouble – A Culture Show Special. Author and screenwriter Hanif Kureishi chats to Alan Yentob about his new book, his latest film and placing his personal archive in the vaults of the British Library.

10.30 Film: My Beautiful Laundrette. (1985) Comedy drama, starring Daniel Day-Lewis.

12.05 Film: The Mother. (2003) **1.50** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Pat & Stan. **6.10** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.20** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.25** Dino Dan. (R) **6.40** Dino Dan. (R) **6.50** Canimals. (R) **7.00** Canimals. (R) **7.05** Canimals. (R) **7.10** Om Nom Stories. (R) **7.15** Sooty. (R) **7.30** Scrambled! **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Dinner Date. (R) **10.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.25** ITV News; Weather. **11.30** Catchphrase. (R) **12.15** The Crocodile Hunter Diaries. (R) **1.15** Midsomer Murders. (R) **3.15** You've Been Framed! (R) **4.15** Regional Programme ; Weather.**4.25** ITV News; Weather. **4.40 Film:** Star Wars: Episode III – Revenge of the Sith. (2005)

7.10 Splash! Dan Osborne, Anna Williamson, Austin Healey and Richard Whitehead perform two dives each in the second semi-final. Vernon Kay and Gabby Logan present.

8.40 Take Me Out. A disco-dancing bachelor, a stockbroker, a nanny and a student try to impress a panel of 30 single women and win a date to the Isle of Fernandos.

9.55 The Jonathan Ross Show. The host is joined by 24 star Kiefer Sutherland, actress Emily Mortimer, actor Chris O'Dowd and comedian Kevin Bridges. Nine-time Grammy winner John Legend provides the music.

10.55 ITV News; Weather.

11.10 Film: 2 Fast 2 Furious. (2003) A disgraced cop is given a chance to redeem himself by going undercover to bring a drug trafficker to justice. Thriller sequel, with Paul Walker.

1.05 Jackpot247. **3.00** Ladette to Lady: Australia. (R) **3.45** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.10 The Hoobs. (R) **6.35** The Hoobs. (R) **7.00** Trans World Sport. **8.00** The Morning Line. **9.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.30** Frasier. (R) **10.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.00** How I Met Your Mother. **11.25** How I Met Your Mother. **12.00** The Simpsons. (R) **12.30** Undercover Boss USA. (R) **1.30** Channel 4 Racing. **4.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.35** Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.05 Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.35 Channel 4 News.

7.00 Bigfoot Files. Mark Evans travels to Russia to investigate the story of Zana, a "wild woman" said to have been found in the 1870s and thought to be a hominid or Neanderthal. Last in the series. (R)

8.00 Walking Through History. New series. Tony Robinson embarks on a towpath exploration of industrial engineering along the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, tracing the story of its chaotic construction.

9.00 Hostages. Ellen struggles to make an agonising choice between saving her husband or protecting her children, and is forced to perform emergency surgery in her own home.

10.00 Film: Source Code. (2011) Sci-fi thriller, starring Jake Gyllenhaal.

11.40 Film: Jackie Brown. (1997) Crime drama, starring Pam Grier.

2.25 Southland. (R) **3.10** Hollyoaks. (R) **5.20** Deal or No Deal. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.00 Film:** An American Tail. (1986) Animated adventure, with the voice of Phillip Glasser. **11.35 Film:** Thunderpants. (2002) Family comedy, starring Bruce Cook. **1.15 Film:** Phenomenon. (1996) Fantasy drama, starring John Travolta. **3.40** Diagnosis Murder. (R) **4.40 Film:** Columbo: An Exercise in Fatality. (1974) Crime drama, starring Peter Falk and Robert Conrad.

6.40 NCIS. The team tries to find out who was responsible for sabotaging a robotic vehicle that caused the death of a Navy lieutenant and almost killed Abby. (R)

7.30 NCIS. The discovery of a dead marine intelligence officer in a motel room sets the team off on a hunt for her killer in an investigation that may lead to a terrorist cell. (R)

8.30 5 News Weekend.

8.35 The NCIS Movie: Enemies. Feature-length episode. Ziva confronts her past when the team is ordered to protect her father, Mossad director Eli David, at a gathering of former heads of NCIS. (R)

10.15 Film: Willed to Kill. (2012) Premiere. A detective must face up to her own troubled childhood when a serial killer develops a twisted obsession with her. Thriller, with Sarah Jane Morris and Michael Riley.

12.05 SuperCasino. Live interactive gaming. **3.10** Gibraltar: Britain in the Sun. (R) **4.00** Wildlife SOS. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **4.50** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.00** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.10** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.20** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.25** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.40** Hana's Helpline. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Great Movie Mistakes 2: The Sequel **8.00** Top Gear **9.00 Film:** Enemy of the State (1998) **11.05** Family Guy

BBC Four
7.00 Wild China **8.00** Pain, Pus & Poison: The Search for Modern Medicines **9.00** Salamander **10.35** Pink Floyd: Wish You Were Here **11.35** Pink Floyd: A Delicate Sound of Thunder

ITV2
3.00 Film: Dennis (1993) **4.55 Film:** Horrid Henry: The Movie (2011) **6.50 Film:** The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (2008) **9.00 Film:** The Shawshank Redemption (1994) **11.55** The Magaluf Weekender

ITV3
3.30 Agatha Christie's Poirot **4.40** Inspector Morse **7.00** Rosemary & Thyme **8.00** Doc Martin **9.00** Vera **11.00** A Touch of Frost

Drama
3.10 Cadfael **4.40** One Foot in the Grave **6.00** All Creatures Great and Small **7.00** Young James Herriot **8.20** Last of the Summer Wine **9.00** Waking the Dead **11.25** Sharpe

E4
4.00 Rules of Engagement **5.00** How I Met Your Mother **6.30** The Big Bang Theory **7.30** How I Met Your Mother **8.00** The Tomorrow People **9.00 Film:** Beverly Hills Cop (1984) **11.05** Rude Tube: Rude Zoo

Film4
3.05 Jungle 2 Jungle (1997) **5.10** Leap Year (2010) **7.05** Step Up 2: The Streets (2008) **9.00** Slumdog Millionaire (2008) Danny Boyle's Oscar-winning drama, with Dev Patel and Freida Pinto. With an introduction by Danny Boyle. **11.25** Trainspotting (1996)

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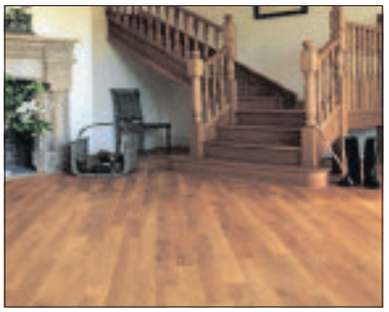

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SUNDAY'S TV 9.02.14

Listings supplied by Press Association

CHOICE

Derek Jacobi

DRAMA

Cadfael, 9pm Dramatised from the novel of the late Ellis Peters, the 90 minute film begins with pilgrims being brought to Shrewsbury Abbey after they are suspected of being behind the discovery of a rotting corpse of an old man in a sack. Imprisoning them all within the Abbey walls, Cadfael renders the corpse down to its bones to discover the cause of murder. Among the resentful pilgrims are a couple of young thieves - Melangell (Vanity Fair's Natasha Little) and her brother Walter (Lee Ingleby).

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.25** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Sunday Politics. **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.45** The Indian Doctor. (R) **2.30** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. **5.00** Songs of Praise. **5.35** BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

6.00 Fake or Fortune? Philip Mould and Bendor Grosvenor identify two works from public collections that could be by 18th-century portrait artist Thomas Gainsborough. Last in the series.

7.00 Countryfile. A trip to the Lake District, where the show's opening titles were filmed. Matt Baker visits the beach the horses race across and Helen Skelton recreates the rock-climbing scene. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

8.00 Call the Midwife. Jenny has an eventful few days, starting with a patient who as well as having herself to worry about, is also struggling to cope with her agoraphobic mother.

9.00 The Musketeers. Aramis's loyalty to the Musketeer regiment is tested when he agrees to help an old friend uncover the truth behind a disastrous mission.

10.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

10.25 Match of the Day 2. Including highlights of Tottenham Hotspur v Everton.

11.25 Film: Brooklyn's Finest. (2009) Crime thriller, starring Richard Gere.

1.30 Weatherview. **1.35** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 Live Winter Olympics. Coverage of the opening session on day two of the Games. **11.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **12.30 Film:** The Gumball Rally. (1976) **2.10** Live Winter Olympics. Further coverage of the second day from Russia. **4.30** Live Winter Olympics. Concluding coverage.

7.10 Winter Olympics: Today at the Games. Clare Balding introduces highlights from day two in Russia, where eight gold medals were decided in venues in Sochi and Krasnaya Polyana.

8.00 Top Gear. Richard Hammond gets behind the wheel of the Alfa Romeo 4C, Jeremy Clarkson puts the McLaren P1 hypercar to the test and Thor star Tom Hiddleston drives the Reasonably Priced Car.

9.00 Dragons' Den. A couple pitch their glamorous camping business, a mother-of-four from Shropshire has a new take on the coffee bag, and one entrepreneur attempts to graffiti the Den.

10.00 Alan Davies Apres-Ski. A comic look at the news and action from the Winter Olympics. (R)

10.30 QI XL. With Jo Brand, Liza Tarbuck and Sue Perkins. (R)

11.15 Royal Cousins at War. Part one of two. The impact the relationships between cousins Nicholas II of Russia, Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany and the UK's George V had on the outbreak of the First World War. (R)

12.15 Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **1.10** Holby City. (R) **2.10** The Search for Alfred the Great. (R) **3.10** This Is BBC Two. **5.00** Live Winter Olympics.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Pat & Stan. **6.10** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.20** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.25** Dino Dan. (R) **6.40** Dino Dan. (R) **6.50** Canimals. (R) **7.00** Canimals. (R) **7.05** Canimals. (R) **7.10** Om Nom Stories. (R) **7.15** Sooty. (R) **7.30** Scrambled! **9.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **10.20** Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) **11.15** ITV News; Weather. **11.20** The Unforgettable Dudley Moore. (R) **11.50** Inside the National Trust. **12.50** The Crocodile Hunter Diaries. (R) **1.50** Splash! (R) **3.20 Film:** Thunderball. (1965) **5.50** Regional Programme ; Weather.

6.00 ITV News; Weather.

6.15 Dancing on Ice. The seven remaining stars perform to songs from 1984 as the show marks the 30th anniversary of Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean winning gold at the Sarajevo Winter Olympics. The results are at 8.30pm.

7.45 All Star Family Fortunes. With Olympic rowing hero Steve Redgrave and Emmerdale's Natalie Anderson.

8.30 Dancing on Ice: The Skate Off. Another star skater is eliminated.

9.00 Mr Selfridge. The men of Selfridges clamour to do their bit for the war effort.

10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather.

10.15 Birds of a Feather. Sharon's estranged husband asks for a divorce. (R)

10.45 Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Tony Blackburn. (R)

11.45 Premiership Rugby Union. Action from the 13th round of top-flight fixtures.

12.40 The Store. (R) **2.40** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **4.05** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.15 The Hoobs. (R) **6.40** The Hoobs. (R) **7.05** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.30** Frasier. (R) **7.55** Frasier. (R) **8.25** The Taste. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.25** How I Met Your Mother. **1.55** How I Met Your Mother. **2.25** The Simpsons. (R) **2.55** The Simpsons. (R) **3.30 Film:** Three Men and a Baby. (1987) **5.30** Deal or No Deal.

6.30 Channel 4 News.

7.00 Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast. Jamie Oliver creates a Sunday roast and curry fusion, Jimmy Doherty builds a DIY smoker and former Radio 1 DJ Chris Moyles prepares his favourite dish – a New York-style pizza. (R)

8.00 Scandimania. In Denmark, Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall cooks with Rene Redzepi, owner of the award-winning restaurant Noma, and meets actor Soren Malling, star of The Killing and Borgen.

9.00 Babylon. Police comedy drama, directed by Danny Boyle. Violence erupts across London as the Met chief tries to revamp the force's public image. Starring James Nesbitt.

10.35 Film: The Bank Job. (2008) A London bank robber accidentally steals top-secret files which the government and security services want buried. Fact-based thriller, starring Jason Statham and Saffron Burrows.

12.40 Film: Tigerland. (2000) **2.20** Boss. **3.20** Abductees. (R) **3.30** Eating for Two. (R) **3.35** Location, Location, Location. (R) **4.35** Supernanny US. (R) **5.15** River Cottage Bites. (R) **5.30** Deal or No Deal. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Fifi and the Flowertots. (R) **6.25** Bubble Guppies. (R) **6.35** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.50** Chloe's Closet. (R) **7.00** Milkshake! Bop Box. (R) **7.10** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.25** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.35** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **7.40** City of Friends. (R) **7.55** Little Princess. (R) **8.05** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.20** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **8.35** Mio Mao. (R) **8.45** Rupert Bear. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.15** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.30** LazyTown. (R) **10.00** Power Rangers Super Samurai. (R) **10.35** Power Rangers Megaforce. (R) **11.10** The Hotel Inspector. (R) **12.05** Ice Road Truckers. (R) **1.05** Ben Fogle: New Lives in the Wild. (R) **2.05** Police Interceptors. (R) **3.10 Film:** Daddy Day Camp. (2007) **4.50 Film:** Land of the Lost. (2009)

6.45 Film: Planet of the Apes. (2001) An astronaut crash-lands on a strange planet ruled by intelligent apes, who capture and enslave him. Tim Burton's sci-fi remake, starring Mark Wahlberg.

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 Film: The Expendables. (2010) A mercenary team is double-crossed while on a mission to kill a South American dictator. Action thriller, directed by and starring Sylvester Stallone.

10.55 Film: Full Metal Jacket. (1987) Vietnam War drama, starring Matthew Modine.

1.15 SuperCasino. **3.10** Ultimate Emergency Bikers. (R) **4.00** Wildlife SOS. (R) **4.20** Make It Big. (R) **4.45** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.00** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.05** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.20** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.25** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.40** Hana's Helpline. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three

7.00 Great Movie Mistakes **7.05** Pop's Greatest Dance Crazes **7.35** The Voice UK **9.00** Russell Howard's Good News **10.00** Family Guy **10.45** Uncle

BBC Four

7.00 Francesco's Italy Top to Toe **8.00** Wainwright: The Man Who Loved the Lakes **9.00** Space Shuttle: The Final Mission **10.00** The Sky at Night **10.30 Film:** Tomboy (2011) **11.50** Arena: The Everly Brothers

ITV2

2.40 Film: The Flintstones in Viva Rock Vegas (2000) **4.25 Film:** Garfield: A Tale of Two Kitties (2006) **6.00 Film:** Rumor Has It (2005) **8.00** Best of You've Been Framed! **9.00** The Magaluf Weekender **10.00 Film:** Bridget Jones's Diary (2001)

ITV3

2.50 Agatha Christie's Marple **4.55** Lewis **6.55** Agatha Christie's Poirot **9.00** The Best of the Royal Variety **10.00 Film:** Steptoe and Son Ride Again (1973)

Drama

2.30 Catherine Cookson's The Moth **5.30** A Bit of a Do **6.40** Monarch of the Glen **7.50** Lovejoy **9.00** Cadfael **10.30** Jonathan Creek **11.30** A Bit of a Do

E4

4.00 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **5.00** The Tomorrow People **6.00** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **6.30** The Big Bang Theory **8.00 Film:** Percy Jackson & the Lightning Thief (2010) **10.25 Film:** The Running Man (1987)

Film4

3.20 The Towering Inferno (1974) **6.25** A Knight's Tale (2001) **9.00** Black Swan (2010) **11.05** Harold & Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay (2008)

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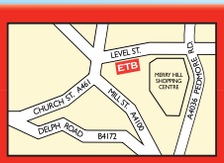

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Film Choices

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Death Race, Channel 5, 11pm
Jensen Ames is framed for the murder of his wife and sent to Terminal Island Prison, a facility that broadcasts the highly profitable Death Race, a high-octane event where convicts battle to the death in customised cars. When a popular driver dies, crooked prison warden Hennessey persuades Ames to take his place, claiming he will be released if he is victorious. Sci-fi thriller, starring Jason Statham and Joan Allen. (2008)

TUESDAY
The Hoax, BBC1, 11.35pm
Drama set in the 1970s, based on the true story of Clifford Irving, a struggling author who managed to convince a publisher that business magnate Howard Hughes had personally hired him as a biographer. Banking on the reclusive billionaire being too publicity shy to contradict his claims, Irving offered the rights to the book for $1million. But keeping up the deception demanded an ever more complex web of lies. With Richard Gere and Marcia Gay Harden. (2006)

WEDNESDAY
Dangerous Attraction, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A woman is driven into seclusion out of fear of a stalker, but resolves to fight back when he threatens those closest to her. Thriller, with Amanda Righetti and Catherine Hicks. (2012)

Death Race, Monday, Channel 5, 11pm

I Love You Phillip Morris, Channel 4, 12.05am
A gay conman keeps his criminal career and his sexuality a secret from his family, until he ends up in prison for fraud. While serving his sentence, he falls madly in love with a fellow convict and becomes determined to secure their future together – even if it involves a great deal of criminal activity and several prison breaks. Fact-based romantic comedy drama, with Jim Carrey and Ewan McGregor. (2009)

THURSDAY
Like Mother, Like Daughter, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A woman searching for her missing daughter receives help from a professor – but does not realise he murdered her. Thriller, starring Michelle Stafford. (2007)

FRIDAY
Before Sunrise, BBC2, 11.05pm
American tourist Jesse and French student Celine meet by chance on a train travelling to Vienna. The two strangers form a close connection almost instantly, and spend the day together in the city, discussing their hopes and dreams. However, their romance seems likely to only last a day, as Jesse is due to fly back home. Richard Linklater's romantic drama, starring Ethan Hawke and Julie Delpy. (1995)

Pick of the Week

Visionary Liz fails to see the upcoming trouble

Director Danny Boyle won critical acclaim for movies such as Trainspotting and 28 Days Later, an Oscar for Slumdog Millionaire, and unofficial national treasure status for overseeing the 2012 Olympic Opening Ceremony.

But in the unlikely event that he still feels a little underappreciated, maybe he should listen to what Brit Marling has to say about him.

The actress, whose credits include The East and Arbitrage, gushes: "Danny, you feel, has the kind of curious mind and unstoppable heart that are capable of anything – exploring a distant galaxy and building a new world from scratch there for instance.

"So it's lucky for us he chose to be a storyteller in a time where we need them so desperately – to make sense of the world we are living in and how to navigate it."

Given that glowing endorsement, it's no surprise that Marling signed on for Boyle's latest project, police comedy-drama Babylon.

Written by Peep Show and Fresh Meat veterans Sam Bain and Jesse Armstrong (Marling has high praise for them as well – "such great writers it's borderline dangerous"), it boasts James Nesbitt at the head of an impressive cast as Chief Constable Richard Miller, who realises that the London police force could do with a bit of a public image revamp.

And he thinks American new-media visionary Liz Garvey (Marling) is just the woman to do it. She believes that in an era of rolling news, social media and members of the public potentially filming everything on their phones, it's more important than ever for the cops to be open and transparent, an idea that Marling found intriguing.

"Danny and I spoke on the phone and I loved how he saw the story developing, and the questions he wanted to ask about how technology and the transparency it creates is changing all of our lives. How does law enforcement change when a criminal is using Twitter or Instagram? What's the future of the public's involvement in law enforcement as a result?

"And how do you create a career girl that isn't a typical ball-buster but is multi-faceted?"

Luckily, she thinks the writers cracked it. "I think [Liz] is a very interesting person, because she's been successful very young, and she's used to getting her way and things moving quickly. And I think she suddenly moves into this new job and it's not quite what she expected, and there's all sorts of political intrigue, and certain people who don't want her there, and she realises that changing things is going to be much more difficult than she thought.

It's not just her new colleagues putting her theories to the test though, as London is rocked by outbreaks of violence. As visions of modern Britain go, it may not be as uplifting as the Queen jumping out of a plane with James Bond, but it hasn't put American star Marling off.

She's as enthusiastic about her co-stars (including Jill Halfpenny, Paterson Joseph, Bertie Carvel and Adam Deacon) and the city itself as she is about Boyle.

"I think I'm turning into something of an addict, I just want to be in London all the time. I'll just come over here to make anything people will hire me for."

Brit Marling stars in Babylon, Sunday, Channel 4, 9pm

Best of the Rest

MONDAY
Jim Davidson: At Least I'm Not Boring
Channel 5, 9pm
What a difference a year makes. Twelve months ago, Jim Davidson was fending off police allegations, but he's won so much public favour since then that he was recently crowned winner of the latest edition of Celebrity Big Brother. While he might have had his fair share of arguments in the house, what you see is definitely what you get with Jim – an opinionated, honest man with whom you'll always know where you stand. This profile of the comedian charts his rise to fame after appearing on talent show New Faces in 1976, before going to on to become a household name hosting BBC favourites Big Break and The Generation Game.

TUESDAY
Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? Chris's Final Answer
ITV, 8pm
Who Wants to Be a Millionaire is such a TV institution, it's arguably launched a few quiz questions of its own, including "who was the first person to win a million?" (Answer: future Egghead Judith Keppel.) But which contestants and moments stand out for host Chris Tarrant? Well, we're about to find out, as following the two celebrity specials that brought down the curtain on the hugely successful series, he looks back over nearly 16 years of 'Millionaire.' As you'd expect Charles Ingram, the so-called 'Coughing Major', who was accused of cheating his way to the top prize, features – which should also remind us that at its height, WWTBAM was so popular, even a documentary about Ingram was watched by an impressive 17 million viewers.

Inside the Animal Mind
BBC2, 9pm
Here's a bit of good news for anyone who saw school or the office primarily as a place to meet your friends and have a laugh – the most intelligent animals on the planet are also the most social. In the last in this fascinating series, Chris Packham finds out why that is by studying one of the cleverest animals of all – the dolphin. He joins them for a swim, explores their language and also sees how they can recognise themselves in the mirror, suggesting they don't all look alike after all. Chris also learns more about how elephants mourn their dead, and why just because animals are social, it doesn't mean they all get along, as chimps can be more than a little two-faced.

WEDNESDAY
Line of Duty
BBC2, 9pm
Fans of this series could be forgiven for thinking it was a one-hit wonder – it's almost two years since the first run introduced viewers to straight-arrow cop Steve Arnott and his colleagues. But series writer and creator Jed Mercurio was clearly taking his time in crafting what promises to be a nail-biting follow-up. This time, Arnott and co will be investigating DI Lindsay Denton (Keeley Hawes), who is the sole survivor of a police convoy ambushed while escorting a protected witness. Arnott immediately suspect she tipped the perpetrators off – but proving it may be difficult. Martin Compston, Vicky McClure and Adrian Dunbar are among those returning to the drama, while Call the Midwife's Jessica Raine joins the cast as a rookie detective constable.

Suspects
Channel 5, 10pm
What separates this from all the other procedural offerings out there is the fact it's shot in a fly-on-the-wall documentary style. The cast, which includes Fay Ripley (Cold Feet), Damien Molony (Ripper Street) and Clare-Hope Ashitey (Children of Men), created their own dialogue based on a detailed plot description. Set in London, each episode is a self-contained story beginning with a news report. We then follow the three detectives as they investigate the case. The series opens with the abduction of two-year-old Hope Wilkins. Her dysfunctional family are initially marked as suspects, until a convicted child killer is connected to the case.

Jim Davidson: At Least I'm Not Boring, Monday, Channel 5, 9pm

THURSDAY
The Kidnapping of Shergar
Channel 5, 8pm
The mystery of Lord Lucan's disappearance in 1974, and the fate of champion racehorse Shergar have captured the public's imagination for decades. A few months after the former case was addressed in an ITV drama, we now get this equine detective story. The 1981 Derby winner was kidnapped from his home at County Kildare's Ballymany Stud in February 1983 by a masked gang. They held staff at gunpoint and Shergar was taken away in a horse trailer and never seen again. Here film-makers chat to key witnesses about the theft, and paint a picture of one of the most audacious thefts in history.

FRIDAY
Student Nurses: Bedpans and Bandages
ITV, 8pm
Across the country, a new generation of nurses are training up to take on the responsibility of a nation's health and well-being. It's a lot of pressure, and with ever-greater demands since the early days of the NHS, it's harder to qualify now than ever before. So this documentary will make for very interesting viewing indeed, as cameras follow trainee nurses in Birmingham and Manchester, showing the challenges they face on a daily basis as they juggle academic study with their personal life and work on the wards. In the first instalment, 24-year-old student Alistair discusses being one of a growing number of men taking up a career in nursing, while 21-year-old Helen nears the end of her three-year degree to become a children's nurse.

Brain Gym

No.259

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.

	20		8			3		5	25	5	6	8
24 R	11 U	5	16	11	24	6		6			21	
	16		11			6		8	4	22	6	8
12	11	4	3	24	11	5	22	6				4
	4				8			16		1		26
10	22	25	15	21	6	24		4	20	4	19	6
		3				4				19		
26	11	22	22	2		18	4	24	1	6	4	3
22		2		6			16				7	
25				22	25	16	6	24	4	22	22	2
7	6	14	6	22		2			23		13	
	14			13		5	4	24	4	3	13	17
24	6	9	6	18		6			24		20	

1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11 U	24 R
12	25
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1 T	2 F	3 E	4 X	5 Z	6 D	7 H	8 A	9 S	10 U	11 O	12 G	13 L
14 N	15 Y	16 B	17 J	18 K	19 M	20 R	21 P	22 V	23 C	24 I	25 Q	26 W

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

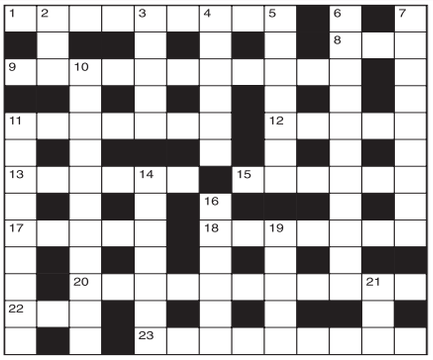
Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Amend list and take down when corrected (9)
8. Some very expensive kind of whisky (3)
9. Give hand signals? (11)
11. Having arrived to stage the show (7)
12. An advance, we hear, without friendly support (5)
13. Bird noises ruin the speech (6)
15. Establish the limits of French judicial punishment (6)
17. Mishandles earpieces (5)
18. Unfriendly crowd before the prophet returns (7)
20. Fresh confirmation about secure policy (11)
22. Begone! I must be seen inside (3)
23. A startling revelation for one who wakes up (3-6)

Down

2. Passion shown in their exasperation (3)
3. Nearly everything I have is charged with electricity (5)
4. Mocks at relative in back-street (6)
5. Come from a wild manatee (7)
6. You'll find more point in giving forewarning (11)
7. One who gives in easily won't manage to do this (9)
10. Did the Greeks regard it as a capital investment? (5,2,4)
11. Kind of ice slippers for beasts of burden (4-5)
14. Extract from a book in which a fool is taken in by a young attendant (7)
16. Unsullied, but almost subject to punishment (6)
19. Expose this kind of cartoon (5)
21. This hint would be about right to produce a remedy (3)



Quick Clues:

Across

1. Loss of power of action (9)
8. Possess (3)
9. Cast down (11)
11. Kitchen sideboard (7)
12. Foreign (5)
13. Come back (6)
15. Ebb (6)
17. Rank (5)
18. Mean (7)
20. Bright (11)
22. In error (3)
23. Without stopping (9)

Down

2. Melody (3)
3. Water-lily (5)
4. Flight of steps (6)
5. Recover (7)
6. Thoughtful (11)
7. Deceitful (9)
10. Contingency (11)
11. Guidance (9)
14. Favour (7)
16. Wan (6)
19. Banish (5)
21. Nothing (3)

Sudoku

		6	5			3	9	
	3						1	
			2	3		6		
	1	7	4			5	2	
8			1		3			6
	6	4			7	9		
		3			6			9
	4			1			8	
	9	8			2			5

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

6	4	9	8	2	3	7	1	5
7	1	2	4	6	5	9	8	3
5	8	3	7	9	1	4	6	2
1	7	5	2	3	8	6	9	4
9	2	4	5	7	6	1	3	8
8	3	6	1	4	9	2	5	7
2	9	8	3	1	4	5	7	6
4	5	1	6	8	7	3	2	9
3	6	7	9	5	2	8	4	1

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 7 Arable; 8 Dotage; 10 Strange; 11 Solid; 12 Gait; 13 Avoid; 17 Cross; 18 Scar; 22 Edict; 23 Fortune; 24 Slaves; 25 Sparta. Down: 1 Passage; 2 Hair-pin; 3 Plane; 4 Corsair; 5 Sally; 6 Wends; 9 Leaves off; 14 Brother; 15 Acquire; 16 Arsenal; 19 Beast; 20 Vicar; 21 Crops. QUICK - Across: 7 Travel; 8 Barter; 10 Mariner; 11 Naive; 12 Note; 13 Inter; 17 Tepid; 18 Whet; 22 Title; 23 Attempt; 24 Grieve; 25 Recent. Down: 1 Stamina; 2 Narrate; 3 Meant; 4 Painter; 5 Attic; 6 Order; 9 Principal; 14 Deceive; 15 Whimper; 16 Statute; 19 Stage; 20 Strip; 21 Strew.

star extra TRAVEL

The Rocky Mountaineer

The magnificent Rocky mountains are Canada's crowning glory and home to bears, majestic elk, moose and beaver plus vast forests and opaque lakes reflect the magnificent scenery like no other place on earth.

From Calgary, travel will be by coach across the gently rolling prairies of Alberta passing the amazing slate-grey, snow-capped peaks of the Rockies to the attractive small town of Banff where accommodation is for three nights.

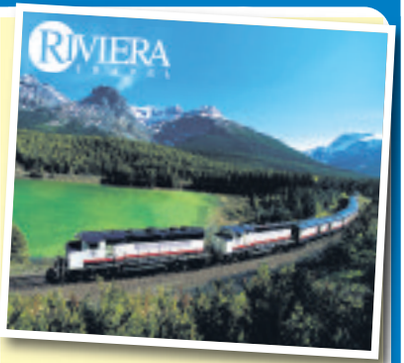
From here a journey along the Icefields Parkway is made, one of the most spectacular roads in the world then continuing on, past Peyto Lake to the Columbia Icefield, which is the largest in the Rockies and covers an area of over 200 square miles. Weather permitting a ride on a 'snocoach' across the Athabasca Glacier will give a closer inspection of the massive crevasses.

After a day relaxing and taking the opportunity to maybe take a dip in Banff's relaxing hot springs or perhaps ride up to the top of Sulphur Mountain on the Banff gondola, the highlight of the holiday will no doubt be travelling on one of the world's greatest train journeys.

The Rocky Mountaineer takes a spectacular two-day, 585-mile journey following the wide Bow River valley before crossing the Continental Divide, traveling through the famed spiral tunnels and across the dramatic 500-foot steel span of Stoney Creek bridge. The excellent on-board commentary highlights the intriguing history of the towns en route and the building of the railway itself.

To end this truly once-in-a-lifetime experience, accommodation has been arranged in Vancouver for the last two nights. With its picturesque harbour and the lush coastal mountains forming a stunning backdrop, it's the perfect place to enjoy the rest of this memorable holiday.

The option to add a seven-day Alaskan cruise to this holiday is also available.



FROM £2,199*

Nine days various departure dates

Price includes

- Return flights
- Seven nights room-only accommodation
- Two breakfasts and two lunches
- Two-day journey through the Rockies on the Rocky Mountaineer from Banff to Vancouver
- Travel on the Icefields Parkway
- Walk on the Athabasca glacier
- Stay in Vancouver
- Optional excursions available
- Single rooms subject to availability – supplement applies

*Varies according to departure date - please go to website for the latest availability and prices

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Please read brochure/web page for full information plus terms and conditions

Property

Four-bedroom is in a sought-after location

A SUPERIOR four bedroom modern detached house which, situated in one of Perton's sought-after locations, is on the market for £239,500.

The property in St Andrew's Drive provides extremely spacious living accommodation which has been maintained and decorated to a high standard.

The accommodation comprises central heating, uPVC double glazing, reception porch, through hallway with refitted cloakroom off, lounge, separate dining room and a refitted open plan kitchen.

There is also a playroom/office room, four bedrooms, the master with refitted en suite shower room, refitted bathroom suite with a shower, garage and a shaped front driveway providing off road parking for more than one car and a beautiful laid out enclosed rear garden.

For more information call 01902 753131.

Walking distance from town centre

A ONE-bedroomed flat in Brunswick Road Cannock including parking and a garden is for sale through Webbs Estate Agents at £74,995 with no chain.

It has a porch, entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, landing, bedroom, shower room, double glazing, gas central heating, parking and a garden. The property is within walking distance of Cannock town centre.

The lounge has an Adams-style fire surround with a marble back and hearth incorporating an electric fire. The kitchen includes an extractor hood and a tiled floor. The bedroom has wooden flooring while the shower room has a white suite.

For further information contact Webbs Estate Agents on 01543 468846 or visit www.webbsestateagents.co.uk

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Guide: £64,000-£68,000

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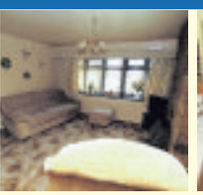
3 Bed — Hoylake Drive, TIVIDALE

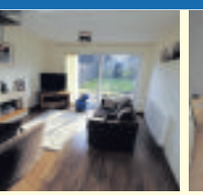


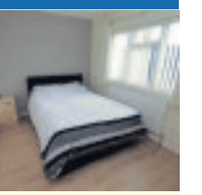
We are delighted to present for sale this 3/4 bedroom detached home situated in this popular and sought after location with good access to all local amenities. The property requires some internal updating but benefits from excellent sized accommodation to comprise of; Entrance hall, 'L' shaped lounge/diner, extended kitchen, downstairs w.c. and potential bedroom four/office space. To the first floor there are three double bedrooms and a family bathroom. The property also benefits from being gas centrally heated and double glazed, has off road parking, car port and garage and front and rear gardens. Early viewing is highly recommended to avoid missing out!

EPC:TBC

Netherton Office — Offers Around £195,000

2 Bed — Carnegie Avenue, TIPTON



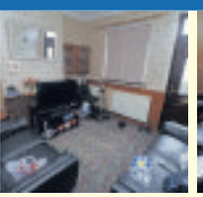


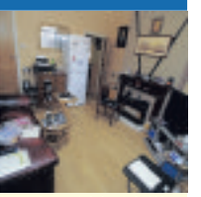
This immaculately presented semi-detached home situated in this convenient location with excellent communication links would be ideally suited to a first time buyer or buy to let investor. Comprising; Entrance hallway, kitchen, good sized lounge and two double bedrooms with a family bathroom, the property also benefits from being gas centrally heated and double glazed and has off road parking for two vehicles. Viewing essential to avoid missing out!

EPC:TBC

Netherton Office — Offers Around £87,500

2 Bed — Park Road, NETHERTON



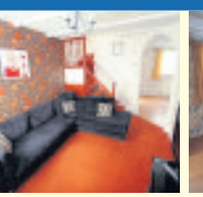


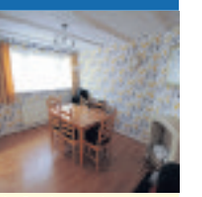
This deceptively spacious intermediate terraced property is located within this popular and established residential vicinity close to Netherton village centre and most amenities. Having the benefit of being UPVC double glazed and having a condensing central heating boiler it comprises; Front reception room, inner lobby, rear reception room, kitchen, downstairs shower room, two bedrooms, upstairs w.c. and low maintenance paved rear yard. Offering an excellent opportunity to the first time purchaser or investor clients alike, viewing is highly recommended.

EPC:D

Netherton Office — Offers Around £79,950

3 Bed — Winchester Rise, DUDLEY



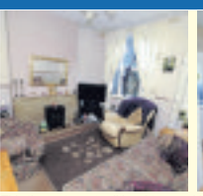


offering an excellent opportunity to the first time purchaser or young family, this semi-detached family home benefits from central heating, double glazing and ample off road parking. Being conveniently situated to most amenities, it benefits from through lounge/dining room, kitchen, integral garage which is currently used for storage, three good sized bedrooms, bathroom and rear garden. Being realistically priced for a quick sale, an early viewing is highly recommended.

EPC:C

Netherton Office — Offers Around £115,000

3 Bed — Kingsley Street, NETHERTON

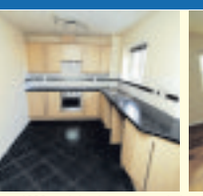


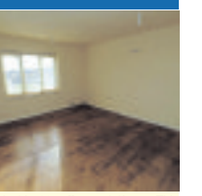
This three storey traditional terraced home is situated in this convenient backwater location with good access to all local amenities and has accommodation to comprise of; Lounge, breakfast kitchen, two bedrooms and a family shower room to the first floor with stairs rising to the loft conversion providing a third bedroom. The property also benefits from being gas centrally heated and double glazed and has a courtyard style rear garden. Viewing is recommended to appreciate the accommodation on offer.

EPC:D

Netherton Office — Offers Around £84,950

2 Bed — Brades Road, OLDBURY



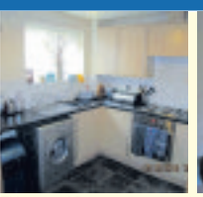


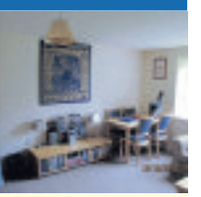
●●●1000 cash back upon completion (subject to offer made)!●●● This modern, well presented first floor flat offers an excellent opportunity to first time buyers or investors having the remainder of NHBC warranty and being available with NO UPWARD CHAIN. It comprises; Private entrance hall, kitchen, lounge, two bedrooms and bathroom. Having allocated parking to rear and being situated in this convenient location close to the canal basin, an early viewing is highly recommended to avoid disappointment.

EPC:C

Netherton Office — Offers Around £89,950

2 Bed — Summerton Road, TIVIDALE



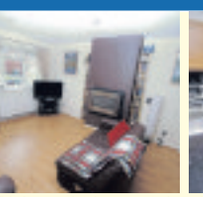


This ground floor apartment on the 'Coppice Gate' development has accommodation to comprise: Lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms, and a bathroom. The property further benefits from double glazing, storage heating and designated off road parking. Being situated close to Dudley Town centre and having good transport links, an early viewing is highly recommended for either first time buyers or buy to let investors - this apartment has been let for a number of years at £475 p.c.m.

EPC:B

Netherton Office — Offers Invited £79,950

2 Bed — Cecil Drive, TIVIDALE



This immaculately presented semi-detached home is situated in this quiet residential location with good access to all local amenities. The property offers gas centrally heated and double glazed accommodation to comprise of; Entrance hallway, lounge, breakfast kitchen, two double bedrooms and a family bathroom. The property also benefits from ample off road parking, front and rear gardens. Viewing is highly recommended to appreciate this property!

EPC:C

Netherton Office — Offers Around £105,000

Website : www.thepropertyshop.co.uk Email: info@thepropertyshop.co.uk

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Property Lettings & Management

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DPS APIP NAEA The Property Ombudsman OFT

SEDGLEY
Sandyfields Road

This property must be viewed as it is rare to find a two bedroom first floor apartment in such a demanded area including a garage and a garden! There is no upward chain and it is walking distance to the shops and to Sedgley town centre

£114,950

TIVIDALE
Raby Close

Located on the popular red lion estate this demanded three bedroom semi detached house offers a dining kitchen, driveway and rear garden. There are shops within walking distance and public transport links within easy reach. Viewing is highly recommended.

£122,000

Dudley
Cromwell Drive

Recently modernised throughout and offering a modern kitchen and two reception rooms this three bedroom semi detached house has been priced to sell fast so you must view now. Close to the Oakham Road with great schools and shops in walking distance.

£97,000

Dudley
Buffery Road

This detached bungalow really is a must view with two double bedrooms having a generous size kitchen and garden and being located close to the local park, good schools, shops and easy access to transport links. There is no upward chain.

£149,950

DUDLEY
Bishop Close

In need of some modernisation this three bedroom house is located within walking distance of local shops and schools

£67,500

NETHERTON
Alpine Drive

This house offers amazing views to the rear over Netherton reservoir and is within walking distance to the shops and public transport links. With three double bedrooms a conservatory and a downstairs wc viewing is highly recommended

£199,950

Netherton
Bell Road

Located in the heart of Netherton this three bedroom mid terraced house is a tardis. Shops and public transport links are all within walking distance along with locals schools. Call now to appreciate the accommodation on offer

£109,950

Dudley
Perry Close

This house two bedroom mid terraced house has recently been redecorated throughout and is within walking distance to Dudley town centre so viewing is highly recommended

£89,950

LOWER GORNAL
Fiveways Court

A secure modern first floor apartment with amazing views from the lounge window and within walking distance to Gornal village centre

£99,950

DUDLEY
Attingham Drive

A modern one bedroom freehold house with hallway, open plan lounge and kitchen with french door to balcony, mezzanine floor, shower room and allocated parking space

£89,950

LOWER GORNAL
Holloway Street

This four bedroom detached house is like a show home and has so much to offer that viewing is essential. Located on the David Wilson estate in Gornal it is within walking distance to the village and has excellent schools close by yet you can be in the countryside within a short drive.

£249,950

Dudley
Cardoness Place

Located in this popular cul de sac this two bedroom end terraced house offers lounge, dining kitchen, upstairs bathroom, rear garden and ample off road parking

£114,950

DUDLEY
Five Ways Court

Available on 50% share basis this is an amazing two bedroom apartment with far reaching views from the lounge window. With secure gated entrance and walking distance to Gornal village this will appeal to everyone so call now to arrange your viewing

£49,950

Halesowen
Netherend Lane

A one bedroom first floor apartment with a separate garage located within easy travelling distance to merry hill shopping centre or walking distance to Quarry Bank. Great transport links close by.

£54,950

Dudley
Scotts Green Close

This detached three bedroom house is within walking distance to Russells Hall hospital and has great schools close by along with easy access to motorway links. A great family home so call now to arrange your viewing

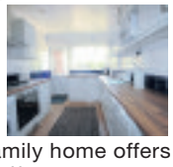
£149,950

TIPTON
Station Street

This property currently produces an income as it has solar panel heating! It is a rare gem in a highly demanded area so call now for further information

£144,950

Dudley
Buffery Road



This detached family home offers three bedrooms and has great access to motorway links, local schools, buffery park and local shops. Viewing is highly recoommended

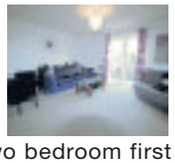
£169,950

Tipton
Evans Close

This extended semi detached two bedroom family home is within walking distance of Foxyards primary school and has shops and excellent public transport links close by along with easy access to the M5/M6 motorway network. The property must be viewed

£124,950

Oldbury
Summerton Road



This modern two bedroom first floor apartment is located with easy access to Oldbury town centre and all motorway links and offers a secure entry system

£75,000

DUDLEY
Holly Road

Within walking distance to Dudley town centre this three bedroom semi detached house may need a little modernisation to suit individual taste but has so much accommodation to offer so viewing is essential

£94,950

Ombudsman www.oea.co.uk

SWINSCOES

Sedgley 01902 672274 sales@swinscoes.co.uk

SEDGLEY

Gospel End Road

* NO UPWARD CHAIN
* An excellent size DETACHED home
* Sought after Gospel End address
* Walking distance to Sedgley village
* Open plan and recently fitted kitchen
* Utility room, play room/sitting room
* FOUR bedrooms, two en-suites
* Driveway parking for several cars
* Part garage and private rear garden
* This is an ideal family home
* EPC Rating - D

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £269,950

COSELEY

Summerhill Road

* A DETACHED bungalow
* Enhanced and upgraded throughout
* Breakfast Kitchen * Large Conservatory
* Lounge & Dining Room
* One bedrooms (can be converted back into a two bedroom)
* Delightful & Landscaped gardens
* Secure parking through electronic gates
* EPC Rating - D

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £225,950

KINGSWINFORD

Swinforge Way

* Four bed detached, village location
* Delightful canal side setting
* Lounge * Dining room
* Breakfast kitchen
* Upvc double glazed windows
* Gas central heating
* Garage, driveway parking
* PART EX CONSIDERED
* EPC Rating - E

OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £215,000

SEDGLEY

Ellymore Road

* A most impressive detached residence
* In walking distance to Sedgley Village
* Spacious accommodation
* Two reception rooms
* Breakfast kitchen
* Four double bedrooms
* No Upward Chain
* Viewing essential
* EPC Rating - D

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £215,950

SEDGLEY

Viewfield Crescent

* A Beautifully presented Bungalow
* Contemporary accommodation
* Large lounge with dining area
* Modern kitchen
* Two DOUBLE bedrooms
* Bathroom with 'white' suite
* Upvc double glazed windows
* Block paved driveway
* Good size rear garden
* NO UPWARD CHAIN
* EPC Rating - C

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £200,000

COSELEY

Bridgewater Drive

* A FOUR bedroom detached
* Extended & enhanced
* Dining & breakfast kitchen
* Contemporary bathroom
* Utility room & guest w.c.
* Garage & off road parking
* NO UPWARD CHAIN
* EPC Rating - D

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £194,950

SEDGLEY

Bilston Street

* A fine detached built1812
* Stands in the heart of Sedgley Village
* Re-furbished and re-designed
* Offering a lot of potential
* OPEN PLAN STYLE
* Three double bedrooms and bathroom
* Attic room (possible fourth bedroom)
* Pretty rear garden * Driveway Parking
* EPC Rating - D

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £170,950

COSELEY

Clifton Street

* A traditional DETACHED home
* Open plan lounge/dining room
* Modern Kitchen
* Three good size bedrooms
* An excellent size bathroom
* Rear gardens & garage
* Off road parking for 2/3 cars
* An ideal family home
* EPC Rating - E

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £174,950

LOWER GORNAL

Winrush Close

* A good size DETACHED property
* In an enviable cul-de-sac location
* An open plan lounge and dining kitchen
* THREE bedrooms, en-suite shower room
* Family bathroom
* UPVC double glazed windows
* Driveway with off road parking
* A good size rear garden and garage
* An ideal family home
* EPC Rating - C

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £168,950

DUDLEY

Attingham Drive

* A Modern TOWN HOUSE
* Set over three storey's
* Contemporary & spacious
* Lounge & dining Kitchen
* FOUR double bedrooms
* Two En-suites & family bathroom
* Allocated parking for 2/3 cars
* Rear garden set over 2 tiers
* EPC Rating - B

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £160,950

COSELEY

NEW

Wilkegates Road

* Exceptional FOUR bed semi
* Impressive, spacious accommodation
* Though lounge/dining room
* Modern kitchen
* Beautifully fitted bathroom
* Rear garden
* Garage * Driveway
* EPC Rating - C

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £152,500

SEDGLEY

Clifton Street

* A PERIOD three storey semi-detached
* Fully modernised and enhanced
* Lounge and conservatory
* Dining kitchen
* Three double bedrooms
* Double glazed 'Sash' windows
* A large & well maintained rear garden
* Views over Coseley allotments
* EPC Rating - E

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £152,500

CRADLEY HEATH

NEW

Trejon Road

* A traditional bay fronted semi-detached
* Lounge & dining kitchen
* Three bedrooms
* Excellent size rear garden
* Upvc double glazed
* Gas centrally heated
* Off road parking
* EPC Rating - tbc

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £149,950

UPPER GORNAL

Ripley Grove

* SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED
* A modern three bed end townhouse
* Built 5 years ago , NHBC warranty
* Lounge, open plan dining kitchen
* Downstairs cloakroom
* En-suite to master bedroom
* Driveway parking
* EPC Rating - C

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £144,950

SEDGLEY

Crown Close

* A beautifully presented and property
* Situated in walking distance to Sedgely
* Garage & off road parking
* An excellent size lounge
* Recently fitted modern kitchen
* Three bedrooms and bathroom
* Rear garden
* EPC Rating - D

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £142,500

COSELEY

REDUCED

Clifton Street

* A modern detached bungalow
* Private access road off Clifton St
* Well maintained accommodation
* Two bedrooms & Wet Room
* Lounge and conservatory
* Low maintenance garden
* EPC Rating - D

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £130,950

COSELEY

NEW

Bickmore Road

* BRAND NEW development
* 5 PLOTS available
* 2 bed town house and semi-detached
* Contemporary accommodation
* Luxury kitchen and bathroom
* Allocated parking * Rear gardens
* Flexible mortgages available
* EPC rating- B

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £129,950

COSELEY

REDUCED

Church Road

* A Traditional terrace property
* Deceptively spacious
* An open plan modern dining kitchen
* Lounge & Sitting Room
* Two good size bedrooms
* Loft Room (being used as a bedroom)
* Good size rear garden
* Driveway with parking for 2 cars
* EPC Rating - E

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £126,950

BARMFORD ESTATE, DUDLEY

NEW

Patricia Crescent

* A traditional semi-detached
* Situated on a sought after estate
* Lounge & Dining Room
* Kitchen & downstairs wc
* Three good size bedrooms
* Beautiful rear garden
* NO UPWARD CHAIN
* EPC Rating - tbc

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £110,500

SEDGLEY

Castle Street

* A DECEPTIVELY spacious terrace
* In walking distance to Sedgley Village
* Upgraded and refurbished throughout
* Three good size bedrooms
* Lounge & Dining Room
* Kitchen Extension
* An ideal first time buy
* EPC Rating - D

OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £105,000

COSELEY

NEW

Brooklyn Grove

* A traditional semi-detached
* Near to Coseley train station
* Some cosmetic updating required
* Lounge & dining room
* Kitchen * Rear lobby * downstairs wc
* THREE bedrooms
* Rear garden * driveway
* NO UPWARD CHAIN
* EPC Rating - C

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £99,500

COSELEY

NEW

Minth Road

* A traditional semi-detached
* Some updating required
* Lounge & dining room
* Kitchen * Rear lobby
* THREE bedrooms
* Well maintained rear garden
* No upward chain
* EPC Rating - C

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £95,000

COSELEY

Rainbow Street

* A semi detached bungalow
* Ideal buy-to-let investment
* Current rental income being £6,825 pa
* Lounge & galley kitchen
* Two bedrooms
* Recently installed central heating
* Recently re-wired & re-plastered
* NO UPWARD CHAIN
* EPC rating - D

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £92,500

DUDLEY

REDUCED

Limes Road

* A modern semi-detached property
* Conveniently situated for Dudley Town Centre
* Kitchen & good size lounge
* Two bedrooms & bathroom
* Off road parking for 4 cars
* Low maintenance rear garden
* Ideal first time buy
* EPC Rating - D

OFFERS OVER £92,000

PARKHOUSE GARDENS, LOWER

Park Road

* A BRAND NEW development
* 6 Bungalows remaining
* High standard and contemporary
* OPEN PLAN style living space
* Luxury breakfast kitchen
* ALLOCATED PARKING
* Rear garden with sunny aspect
* Ideal for independent individuals
* EPC Rating - B

£89,950

SEDGLEY MEWS, TIPTON

Thunderbolt Way

* A modern and stylish top floor apartment *
* Outstanding open aspect views
* Light and airy lounge with dining area
* Kitchen with integrated appliances
* Useful pantry/store
* Spacious bedroom with built-in wardrobes
* Bathroom with white suite
* Secure entry system
* Allocated parking
* EPC Rating - B

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £87,500

UPPER GORNAL

Alderwood Rise

We are acting in the sale of 19 Alderwood Rise, Upper Gornal, DY3 2DY and have received an offer of £85,000 on the above property. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before exchange of contracts takes place. The Energy Performance Certificate Rating is D

£85,000

ETTINGSHALL PARK

Dovedale Road

* A WELL presented Maisonette
* In a popular residential location
* TWO bedrooms
* Kitchen * Lounge
* An ideal first time buy or investment
* Viewing is highly recommended
* EPC Rating - E

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £80,950

UPPER GORNAL

The Arcade

* A SPACIOUS maisonette
* Excellent location for local amenities
* TWO Bedrooms
* Lounge, Kitchen & Dining Room
* Upvc double glazed windows
* Gas central heating
* An ideal investment or first time buy
* EPC Rating - E

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £80,950

TIPTON

Thunderbolt Way

* A modern and stylish apartment
* With secure entry system
* Allocated parking
* Open plan style living
* One double bedroom
* Shower room
* An ideal first time buy or investment
* EPC Rating - D

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £82,950

www.swinscoes.co.uk www.rightmove.co.uk www.globrix.com

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KINGSWINFORD

BARNETT LANE

FOR SALE £59.950*

Purpose built First Floor Flat in a good sought after residential location to Kingswinford village - Accommodation comprises of: Entrance Hall, Lounge/Diner, Two Bedrooms and Bathroom. Property benefits from Double Glazing and Off Road Parking.

KINGSWINFORD

WINDERMERE DRIVE

£795 pcm*

Link Detached Property, Lounge, Dining Area, Kitchen, Cloakroom, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Off Road Parking, Garage

WORSDLEY

RIVERSLEIGH DRIVE

£425 pcm*

Dormer Bungalow, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Storage, One Very Large Bedroom, Bathroom with shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Parking for 2 cars

WALL HEATH

MILE FLAT

£795 pcm*

Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Dining Room, Utility, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front, Side and Rear Gardens, Unfurnished

GORNAL

CLUB ROW

£525 pcm*

Modern End Terrace, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Front & Rear Gardens, Unfurnished

NETHERTON

PARK ROAD

£350 pcm*

First Floor Flat, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, One Bedroom, Bathroom, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished

COSELEY

ROSEVILLE PRECINCT

£375 pcm*

Purpose built flat, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Refitted Kitchen, Bedroom, Refitted Bathroom, Off Road Parking, Unfurnished

KINGSWINFORD

THE PORTWAY

£675 pcm*

Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Shower Room, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Gas Central Heating, Front & Rear Gardens

KINGSWINFORD

QUEEN STREET

£475 pcm*

Large First Floor Flat. Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, One Double Bedroom, Gas Central Heating, Bathroom with Walk in Cupboard, Double Glazing, Part Furnished, Maintained Gardens. No DSS.

KINGSWINFORD

CAMBERLEY ROAD

£675 pcm*

Semi-Detached House, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Single Garage, Off Road Parking, Front & Rear Gardens, Unfurnished

DUDLEY

BOURNE STREET

£375 pcm*

Maisonette, Lounge, Kitchen, One Bedroom, Bathroom, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, Off road parking

WALL HEATH

HIGH STREET

£575 pcm*

Modern End Terrace, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Unfurnished, Rear Garden, Off Road Parking

STOURBRIDGE

AUDNAM

£375 pcm*

First Floor Flat, Ground Floor Entry, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Double Glazing, Off Road Parking, Unfurnished

PENSNETT

KIRKHAM GARDENS

£515 pcm*

Mid Terrace Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Rear Garden, Off Road Parking, Gas Central Heating, Unfurnished

BRIERLEY HILL

DADFORD VIEW

£460 pcm*

Cluster Style Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Unfurnished, Off Road Parking, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating

KINGSWINFORD

RANGEWAYS ROAD

£490 pcm*

Ground Floor Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Front & Rear Garden, Garage

SEDGLEY

KINGS ROAD

£550 pcm*

Mid Terrace Property, Two Reception Rooms, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Rear Garden, Unfurnished

PENSNETT

HIGH STREET

£535 pcm*

Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Off Road Parking, Single Garage

GORNAL

EVE LANE

£620 pcm*

Semi Detached Proeprty, Lounge, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Unfurnished, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front & Rear Gardens, Garage

KINGSWINFORD

BEECH ROAD

£530 pcm*

First Floor Flat, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Newly Decorated, New Flooring, Available Immediately.

HALESOWEN

CLIFTON ROAD

£575 pcm*

Semi-Detached House, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Gas Central Heating, Front & Rear Garden, Garage, Unfurnished

COSELEY

SALCOMBE GROVE

£545 pcm*

Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Front & Rear Gardens

WOMBOURNE

REYNOLDS CLOSE

FOR SALE £325,000*

Detached Property, Entrance Hall & Cloakroom, Lounge, Kitchen, Dining Room, Conservatory, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Front & Rear Gardens, Off Road Parking, Garage/Workshop, Gas Central Heating and Partial Double Glazing.

DUDLEY

GREYSTONE PASSAGE

FOR SALE £249,995*

Large Unusual Detached Property in Central Dudley, Hall, Large Lounge, Dining Kitchen, Utility, WC, Three Good Size Bedrooms, Family Bathroom with Separate Toilet, Two Lofts, Two Garages, Off Road Parking, Lawned Rear Garden and Patio

(*Administration/application fees will apply)

NO LET NO FEE

NO SALE NO FEE

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www.selectsalesandlettings.com

Property

Extended detached has lots of potential

A MUCH-extended detached house, 54 Belmont Road, Penn is in need of some refurbishment but has considerable potential.

It is for sale through Jackson Lile & Close at £180,000.

The house has a reception hall, cloakroom, dining room/study and extended lounge.

It also has an extended L-shaped breakfast room/kitchen, utility, three bedrooms, bathroom, L-shaped loft room, gardens and garage.

For more information contact Jackson Lile & Close on 01902 712812 or visit the website www.jacksonlileeandclose.co.uk

K.Stuart Swash

PROPERTY AUCTION

NEXT SALE

18th March 2014

Entries to date include:

Modernised & unmodernised

Residential Properties

Potential Investments

Land

Further entries invited

Please register for Catalogue

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TIVIDALE

NEW

BROOKES CLOSE

A MODERN THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED HAVING GARAGE & NO CHAIN! A double glazed & gas centrally heated semi detached located at the top of this modern cul-de-sac & is approached via driveway parking to garage & leads to the property comprises entrance hall, ground floor cloakroom, lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, landing, three bedrooms & bathroom. To the rear the garden is paved with lawn beyond. EPC - C

£130,000 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

LOWER GORNAL

NEW

PRICES ROAD

CHARMING, CONSIDERABLY IMPROVED & CONVENIENTLY LOCATED! A gas centrally heated & double glazed traditional style end terraced residence comprising lounge having feature fireplace, fitted kitchen having integrated hob & oven, dining room, first floor landing, shower room, two bedrooms. Other features include easy distance of Gornal Village/Local amenities.EPC Rating awaited.

£124,950 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

LOWER GORNAL

NEW

MENDIP CLOSE

AN IMPROVED THREE BEDROOM MID TERRACED HAVING NO CHAIN! A double glazed & gas centrally heated property approached via driveway parking leading to entrance porch, hallway, lounge, ground floor cloakroom, kitchen, landing, three bedrooms & bathroom. Other features inlcude no upward chain. EPC Rating Awaited

£124,950 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

DUDLEY

NEW

VANBOROUGH WALK

EXTENDED!!! This gas centrally heated and double glazed property is worth of any early viewing, comprising entrance porch, dining room, extended lounge, extended kitchen, ground floor cloakroom, landing, three bedrooms & shower room. The outside has rear garden & block paved driveway. EPC - C

£120,000 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

DUDLEY

ST MARKS ROAD

THREE BEDROOM IMPROVED END TOWNHOUSE!! A gas centrally heated & double glazed end townhouse having cul-de-sac location, parking is provided to the front leading to the property comprising entrance hall, lounge, kitchen diner, landing, three bedrooms (bedroom 1 having fitted wardrobes) & a refitted bathroom. To the rear the decked & gravelled rear garden is low maintenace. EPC-C

£119,950 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

DUDLEY

NEW

WHITEHALL DRIVE

EXTENDED!!!!!This gas centrally heated & double glazed semi detached property comprising entrance porch, dining room, lounge, fitted kitchen, extended breakfast area, to the first floor landing, three bedrooms & bathroom. Externally the property has driveway, rear garden & the benefit of no chain. EPC Rating D

£115,000 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

TIVIDALE

NEW

PRINCES ROAD

AN IMPROVED THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED PROPERTY!!A gas centrally heated and double glazed semi detached property comprising to the ground floor lounge, kitchen dining room, ground floor guest cloakroom, landing, three bedrooms and house bathroom. Externally having extensive rear garden & parking. EPC - D

£115,000 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

TIVIDALE

ASTON ROAD

A well presented gas central heated and double glazed property. Ground floor comprises hallway with stairs leading to the first floor, door leading into the lounge having exposed brick chimney breast, bay window to front, door into the kitchen/diner which overlooks the rear garden, door to the rear porch, range of wall and base units, cooker point & extractor hood. The first floor landing leads to two bedrooms and bathroom. Externally having rear garden & block paved drive. EPC - Rating Awaited

£110,000 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

TIVIDALE

NEW

WESTON AVENUE

EXTENDED KITCHEN & BLOCK PAVED DRIVEWAY!! A gas centrally heated and double glazed extended semi detached comprising entrance hall, through lounge/dining room, extended kitchen, utility, landing, two bedrooms & bathroom. Externally rear garden having lawn & patio, to the front block paved driveway. Other features include a cul-de-sac location & no chain. EPC Rating Awaited

£107,950 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

TIPTON

NEW

DARBYS WAY

A MODERN TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT HAVING NO CHAIN! A double glazed two bedroom first floor apartment having communal entrance, hallway, two double bedrooms, refitted bathroom, open plan lounge/diner & fitted kitchen. Externally having communal areas & allocated parking. EPC - C

£85,000 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

DUDLEY

PERRY CLOSE

A TWO BEDROOM IMPROVED MID TOWNHOUSE HAVING NO UPWARD CHAIN. A gas centrally heated & double glazed mid townhouse comprising vestibule, lounge, fitted kitchen, landing, two bedrooms and updated bathroom. Externally having a cul-de-sac location & enclosed rear garden. EPC - C

£84,950 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

GORNAL WOOD

HIMLEY ROAD

CONSIDERABLY IMPROVED BAY FRONTED DETACHED PROPERTY! A double glazed,gas centrally heated detached property comprising to the ground floor entrance hall, cloakroom, dining room, lounge has open plan access into the fitted kitchen having integrated gas hob with extractor hood above, built in oven,conservatory, landing, four bedrooms, en-suite to the master and a family bathroom/wc. Externally there is a driveway to the front leading to the garage and rear garden. EPC RATING AWAITED

£265,000 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

DUDLEY

THE BROADWAY

This gas central heated and double glazed bay fronted semi detached property which has been improved by the current owners & comprises entrance hall, two reception rooms, extended fitted kitchen, landing, three bedrooms, fitted bathroom/wc and attic room having skylight window. Externally there is a rear garden and block paved driveway. EPC Rating Is Grade C

£160,000 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

LOWER GORNAL

GROSVENOR ROAD

A three bedroom dormer bungalow demanding an early viewing. This double glazed & gas centrally heated dormer bungalow comprises entrance hall, two double bedrooms, bathroom, lounge, kitchen, conservatory, dormer bedroom. Externlly having rear garden & garage. EPC - C

£150,000 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

TIPTON

NEW

BONNEVILLE CLOSE

A CONVENIENTLY LOCATED MODERN GROUND FLOOR WELL PRESENTED APARTMENT! A double glazed ground floor apartment comprising entrance hallway, fitted kitchen having integrated appliances, well presented lounge/dining room, bathroom having white suite, two bedrooms. Externally the property is located on a modern development with allocated & visitor parking provided.EPC - C

£79,950 DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

DUDLEY

TO LET

GRENVILLE ROAD

●EPC - D●Three Bedroom Semi●Located On The Popular Russells Hall Development●Double Glazing●Central Heating●Drive●Available Late Mar

£550 PM DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

DUDLEY

TO LET

CAMBRIDGE RD

3 bedroom semi-detached home & easy access to the Merry Hill Centre and Russells Hall Hospital the property consists of lounge, conservatory & kitchen, downstairs wc and to the first floor 3 bedrooms and family bathroom. Garden to rear.EPC Rating Awaited

£525 PM DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

Stop thinking.
Start moving.

For a FREE valuation, call today.
Why wait? Do it now!

EANN 78 12/03/13

TIPTON

TO LET

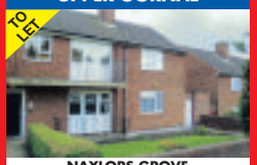
ANCHOR DRIVE

●Modern Ground Floor Apartment ●Two Double Bedrooms ●Open Plan Lounge/Fitted Kitchen ●Allocated Parking ●Double Glazing

£495 P/M DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

UPPER GORNAL

TO LET



NAYLORS GROVE

●EPC Rating C●Ground Floor Maisonette●Two Bedrooms●Fitted Kitchen●Lounge●Bathroom●Double Glazing●Central Heating●Rear Garden

£475 PM DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

NETHERTON

COSFORD DRIVE

●EPC D●Good Presented Modern Townhouse●Two Good Size Bedrooms●Lounge & Fitted Kitchen●Low Maintenance Rear Garden●Ideally Located For Amenities●Available Now

£525 PM DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

SEDGLEY

VIEWFIELD CRESCENT

●REDUCED ●Sought After Location ● First Floor ●One Double Bedroom ●Lounge ●Separate Fitted Kitchen ●Family Bathroom ●DSS Considered With Guarantor ●EPC Rating D

£350PM DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

DUDLEY

TO LET

GREEN PARK ROAD

●EPC Rating E●Semi Detached ●Two Double Bedrooms ●Lounge● Fitted Kitchen●Double Glazing ●Drive●Beautifully Presented

£475 PM DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

TIPTON

TO LET

BONNEVILLE CLOSE

●EPC - B ●Modern Two Bedroom Apartment ●Lounge●Fitted Kitchen ●Bathroom●Double Glazing ●Allocated Parking

£495 PM DUDLEY ✆ 01384 455000

sales lettings mortgages

Dudley
215 High Street ✆ **01384 455000**

ARLA

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KINGSWINFORD	818 High Street	01384 401777
BRIERLEY HILL	84-86 High Street	01384 265265
STOURBRIDGE	85 High Street	01384 395555

6 LOCAL OFFICES WORKING HARDER FOR BUYERS & SELLERS

Kingswinford

Cot Lane

Exceptionally well placed within this premier address, convenient for excellent schooling, this TRADITIONAL BAY FRONTED DETACHED FAMILY HOME requires updating and improvement but offers IMPRESSIVELY SPACIOUS accommodation with OUTSTANDING POTENTIAL, being of EXCELLENT PROPORTIONS throughout and comprising: Entrance Porch, Reception Hall, Lounge, separate Dining Room/Sitting Room, Kitchen, THREE GOOD SIZED BEDROOMS, Bathroom, separate WC; GAS CENTRAL HEATING and UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING. Enjoying a LARGE FRONTAGE with pebbled forecourt, DRIVEWAY, GARAGE and, to the rear, benefiting from an EXCELLENT SIZED REAR GARDEN which enjoys an OPEN REAR ASPECT. EPC Rating: D. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

£230,000

LOWER GORNAL

Deepdale Lane

An imaginatively extended, highly individual, and comparatively spacious, Freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed detached bungalow with PANORAMIC DISTANT views from the rear set in favoured district. The property has been "transformed" by present vendors over the years, and provides reception hall, "snug"/sitting room, magnificent 21'3" x 16' through lounge with patio doors out to a BALCONY, refitted kitchen, dining room (former bedroom). Two bedrooms, reapppointed/re-tiled bathroom with white suite. There are steps down to a useful BASEMENT providing utility room, separate toilet & extensive storage. Large double garage, delightful gardens abutting on to school grounds. EPC Rating T.B.A.

Offers in the region of £227,500

GORNAL/PENSNETT — Cassandra Close

Enjoying a generous corner position upon exclusive Badgers Rise, pleasantly located close to neighbouring fields, this BEAUTIFULLY PRESENTED AND WELL APPOINTED MODERN DETACHED FAMILY HOME includes GAS CENTRAL HEATING, UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING and offers: reception hall, ground floor W.C, spacious lounge, separate dining room, DELIGHTFUL CONSERVATORY EXTENSION, attractive fitted kitchen, utility room, THREE BEDROOMS (two fitted and master with REFITTED EN-SUITE), luxury re-appointed house bathroom. With attractive fore garden, DRIVEWAY, GARAGE and a GENEROUS BEAUTIFULLY LAID OUT REAR GARDEN. EPC Rating D. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

£214,950

DUDLEY

Richborough Drive

Enviably situated, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed detached with open aspect & distant views upon favoured development. Superb accommodation includes; reception hall, store, fitted upgraded cloakroom, breakfast kitchen, transverse lounge, magnificent brick/uPVC double glazed CONSERVATORY. Three bedrooms (principal bedroom with reappointed shower room en suite), upgraded bathroom with white suite. Secure gated drive & substantial brick garage, secluded rear garden. EPC Rating T.B.A. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £187,950

Wordsley — Woodstock Close

Enjoying STUNNING VIEWS from this superb cul de sac position upon the countryside fringe of Forest Lawns / Ashwood Park, this SUCCESSFULLY EXTENDED MODERN DETACHED FAMILY HOME offers THOUGHTFULLY IMPROVED and BEAUTFIULLY PRESENTED accommodation, comprising: reception hall, spacious & attractive lounge plus dining area, breakfast area through to extended / well appointed kitchen with built-in appliances, utility room, rear porch, luxury ground floor shower room, THREE BEDROOMS, refitted bathroom; GAS CENTRAL HEATING and UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING. With attractive low maintenance fore garden, LONG BLOCK PAVED DRIVEWAY, GARAGE and large, pleasant, tiered rear garden with Hot-Tub. EPC Rating: D. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

£204,950

GORNAL WOOD

Woodland Grove

Enviably situated in short cul-de-sac just off Brick Kiln Lane where houses are only rarely available for sale; a conscientiously maintained, gas centrally heated, uPVC double glazed EXTENDED detached. The accommodation provides; reception hall, lounge, transverse "hub of the house" breakfast kitchen, and a dining room beyond, together with a "garden room". Three bedrooms, bathroom. Lengthy block paved driveway, brick garage, sheltered/secluded rear garden. EPC Rating E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £184,950

Brierley Hill — Heronswood Drive

Delightfully situated to form part of this convenient address, this MOST APPEALING AND WELL ARRANGED, TWO BEDROOM, DETACHED BUNGALOW RESIDENCE presents a layout which has been planned for easy maintenance, and with GAS CENTRAL HEATING AND UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING briefly comprises; hall, pleasant sitting room with defined dining area leading off, well fitted kitchen, two good bedrooms and delightful reappointed shower room. Foregarden, drive approach to GARAGE and with a level and enclosed rear garden. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC Rating D. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265

£163,950

NETHERTON

The Beck

This well presented, modern style, double glazed (vast majority of units being uPVC), gas centrally heated, Four Bedroom Mid Townhouse provides versatile family living space over three floors and is situated in a quiet cul-de-sac. The deceptive property briefly comprises: Entrance Hall open-plan Kitchen/Dining/Family room, Bedroom Four/Study, Guests WC, first floor Lounge, Master Bedroom with En-Suite, two further second floor Bedrooms, Bathroom with white suite, allocated parking space and a neat rear garden. EPC Rating C. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265.

£154,950

Wordsley

Alwen Street

AN IMPROVED PERIOD MID TERRACE FAMILY HOME enjoying a pleasant cul de sac position, close to the distinctive Stourbridge glass cone and attractive canal side walks, offering ATTRACTIVELY APPOINTED and BEAUTIFULLY PRESENTED accommodation, enhanced by a GENEROUS WELL LAID OUT REAR GARDEN and comprising: well proportioned lounge, separate formal dining room, improved cellar 12'5" x 11'11", fitted kitchen with appliances, beautifully re-appointed shower room, THREE GOOD SIZED BEDROOMS; GAS CENTRAL HEATING and UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING. EPC Rating: E. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

£139,950

Wordsley

New Street

Occupying a very generous position within this popular and established location, this TRADITIONAL FOUR BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED FAMILY HOME is enhanced by a LOFT CONVERSION and affords a SPACIOUS LAYOUT of accommodation which REQUIRES IMPROVEMENT, but offers EXCELLENT POTENTIAL and comprising: reception hall, well proportioned lounge, separate dining room, rear veranda / conservatory, refitted kitchen with appliances, FOUR BEDROOMS, study / store, classic white bathroom; GAS CENTRAL HEATING and UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING. With a GENEROUS FRONTAGE, including DRIVE / PARKING, and enjoying a pleasant patio / lawned rear garden. EPC Rating: C. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

£129,950

Kingswinford

Alder Road

Enjoying a very pleasant cul-de-sac position, just a short walk from local shops within nearby Bromley Lane/Lapwood Avenue, upon the very popular Crestwood Park development, this VERY DECEPTIVE, MODERN, LINK-DETACHED BUNGALOW offers VERY SPACIOUS accommodation which, although REQUIRES UPDATING, provides EXCELLENT POTENTIAL FOR IMPROVEMENT and comprising: Reception Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, TWO GOOD SIZED BEDROOMS, re-appointed Wet Room; GAS CENTRAL HEATING and UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING. With DRIVEWAY and GARAGE, together with an ATTRACTIVELY LAID OUT REAR GARDEN with rear Verandah/Greenhouse. EPC Rating: D. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

£119,950 - No Upward Chain

SEDGLEY

Lime Road

A gas centrally heated, uPVC single glazed semi detached that has been conscientiously maintained over the years but now requires some sympathetic updating. Excellently situated upon lengthy plot in popular neighbourhood, the accommodation includes; porch, reception hall, lounge, kitchen, sitting room. Three bedrooms, shower room (former bathroom). Outer lobby with store & separate toilet. Gardens. EPC Rating T.B.A. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £97,750

UPPER GORNAL

Priors Mill

This traditional style, uPVC double glazed (vast majority of units), gas centrally heated, two bedroomed mid townhouse is available with no upward chain, and may be of particular interest to first time buyers. Accommodation briefly comprises: Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining room, Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, lawned Gardens and secure parking to rear. EPC Rating T.B.A. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £94,950

WOLVERHAMPTON

Rodway Close, Ettingshall Park

SPACIOUS, significantly improved, freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed detached in short cul de sac with views towards fields. Tremendous accommodation includes reception hall, 22ft through living/dining room, CONSERVATORY, upgraded kitchen with fine range of 'shaker' style units & various integrated appliances, laundry/utility room, separate toilet, small study/office; gallery landing, THREE DOUBLE BEDROOMS, large bathroom with white suite, ample parking, sheltered rear garden. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £192,450

SEDGLEY

Coppice Close, Brownswall Estate

An exceptionally stylish, EXTENDED & ENLARGED, Freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed semi detached that has been "transformed" by present vendors in recent years set in favoured cul-de-sac. Accommodation includes; entrance porch, reception hall, through living/dining room (formerly separate rooms) with patio doors & bay, EXTENDED & refitted kitchen with a fine range of "oak" finish units & slate tiled floor, lobby, laundry section, and sitting/tv/family room. To the first floor are THREE DOUBLE BEDROOMS, and a large reappointed bathroom with contemporary style white suite (chrome detailing). Gravelled foregarden, wide rear garden. EPC Rating: G.. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £184,950

DUDLEY

Fairview Road

A quite exceptional , tremendously ENLARGED & EXTENDED, Edwardian semi detached of character occupying a fine corner plot with EXTENSIVE PARKING. The uPVC double glazed & gas centrally heated (combi boiler) accommodation includes; reception hall, 20' sitting room with bay, separate dining room, stunning 22' breakfast kitchen with a magnificent range of units & many integrated appliances, fitted cloakroom, 31' double glazed conservatory, FOUR BEDROOMS, tiled sitower room (former bathroom).Many period features. Large garage, block paved parking, delightful sheltered garden. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £179,950

LOWER GORNAL

Straits Road

This modern style, uPVC double glazed & gas centrally heated detached family home would now ideally benefit from certain cosmetic modernisation/improvement yet offers excellent potential & is available with NO UPWARD CHAIN. The surprisingly spacious property comprises entrance porch, reception hall, lounge, dining room, breakfast kitchen, utility, CONSERVATORY, guest w.c., three good bedrooms, bathroom, larger than average garage, driveway & gardens to three sides. EPC Rating D SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £179,950

BEARWOOD 129 Poplar Road 0121 434 4345
HALESOWEN 21 Hagley Road 0121 550 3978
SEDGLEY 2A Dudley Street 01902 880888

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6 LOCAL OFFICES WORKING HARDER FOR BUYERS & SELLERS

WOLVERHAMPTON

NEW PRICE

Wolverhampton Road East

EXTREMELY SPACIOUS, Freehold, gas centrally heated, mostly uPVC double glazed DETACHED HOUSE designed to take maximum advantage of individual sloping site. Accommodation includes 19ft reception hall, cloakroom, kitchen, dining room, lounge, third bedroom with steps down to the lower ground floor having a hallway, two generous double bedrooms, bathroom & store, secluded rear garden with gated service driveway at rear giving access to extensive slabbed parking & TWO SINGLE BRICK GARAGES. Internal inspection vital to appreciate potential. EPC: D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

WAS £189,950, NOW £179,950

Pensnett

4 BEDROOMS

Woodfield Avenue

Occupying an excellent corner position with GENEROUS, LEVEL, BEAUTIFULLY LAID OUT REAR GARDENS, this SUBSTANTIALLY EXTENDED, TRADITIONAL, FOUR BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED FAMILY HOUSE requires updating but offers EXCEPTIONALLY SPACIOUS accommodation with FANTASTIC POTENTIAL FOR IMPROVEMENT, comprising: entrance porch, reception hall, spacious lounge, dining room area, study, fitted kitchen, cloakroom, ground floor W.C., FOUR EXCELLENT SIZED BEDROOMS, bathroom; GAS CENTRAL HEATING and UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING. Enjoying a superb cul de sac setting, with DRIVEWAY to fore and a DETACHED TANDEM GARAGE. EPC Rating: D. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

£174,950 - No Upward Chain

SEDGLEY

Bilston Street

NO UPWARD CHAIN.A gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed detached most conveniently situated within level walking distance of Sedgley's Bull Ring & all associated amenities. Accommodation comprises entrance hallway, cloaks cupboard, L-shape lounge, dining room, brick/uPVC double glazed CONSERVATORY, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, lengthy block paved gated drive, brick garage, well tended secluded rear garden. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £168,000

SEDGLEY

Richmond Road

Tremendously modernised & improved, freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed inter-war semi character enviably situated within reasonable/level walking distance of Bull Ring & all associated amenities/schools. Accommodation provides imposing reception hall with original oak flooring, separate dining room with bay, sitting room with 'hole in the wall' living flame gas fire, refitted kitchen (integrated appliances), pantry, three bedrooms (two with wardrobes), reappointed bathroom with stylish white suite, garage with utility section, separate toilet, neat secluded rear garden, parking for numerous vehicles. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £154,950

WOODSETTON

Parkes Lane

An EXTENDED, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed semi detached set in quiet "backwater" being close to so many amenities. Conscientiously maintained accommodation includes; entrance hallway, lounge, extended dining room, extended 'L' shape breakfast kitchen. Three bedrooms, upgraded bathroom. Garage (presently sub-divided to form a store, and a further utility room with toilet off). Low maintenance gardens, and tremendous DISTANT VIEWS from the rear. EPC Rating: D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £151,950

DUDLEY

The Broadway

An EXTENDED, spacious, Freehold, gas centrally heated & primarily uPVC double glazed semi detached occupying WIDER THAN AVERAGE PLOT in popular neighbourhood. Accommodation comprises; enlarged porch, reception hall, dining room, lounge, extended 18'2" kitchen, and the former garage has been sub-divided to create a utility room & fitted shower room (access through hall). Three generous bedrooms, bathroom. Extensive parking (11' width from former garage gable to boundary at side). EPC Rating: D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £149,950

TIPTON

Wrens Avenue

An attractive, spacious, conscientiously maintained, Freehold, gas centrally heated & double glazed semi detached of character in favoured district. The accommodation provides; entrance porch, imposing reception hall (8'5" ceiling height), sitting room with bay, separate dining room, kitchen, pantry. Three bedrooms, bathroom. Garage, good sized garden. EPC Rating: D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £149,950

SEDGLEY

Bath Street

This traditional style, bay fronted, uPVC double glazed (vast majority of units) gas centrally heated, three bedroom semi detached family home is situated in an established residential location, and is available with no upward chain, accommodation briefly comprises: Entrance hall, Lounge, Dining room, Enlarged Kitchen, Three good Bedrooms, Bathroom with white suite, lengthy Driveway, Large Garage and a lawned rear garden. EPC Rating: D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £134,950

DUDLEY

Old Park Road

An extended, comprehensively refurbished & upgraded, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed semi detached that has been "transformed" by present vendors in recent months. The stunning accommodation provides; entrance porch, reception hall, sitting room with bay, dining room, extended & refitted 15'6" kitchen with a fine range of "high gloss white" finish units & various integrated appliances. Three bedrooms, reappointed bathroom with a white contemporary style suite & chrome detailing, Gravelled foregarden, good sized rear garden. (STAMP DUTY PAID) EPC Rating: D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £133,750

Pensnett

Primrose Park

A LARGE MODERN 'MEWS' HOUSE which is located in a secluded cul-de-sac position, offering a VERY SPACIOUS, ATTRACTIVELY DECORATED and WELL APPOINTED layout, including GAS CENTRAL HEATING, UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING, comprising: Large 16ft. Lounge, Inner Hall, ground floor Guests Cloakroom/WC, generous full width Dining Kitchen with built-in appliances, TWO LARGE DOUBLE BEDROOMS and attractive Bathroom. BLOCK PAVED PARKING/DRIVEWAY to the fore and ATTRACTIVELY LANDSCAPED PRIVATE REAR GARDEN. EPC Rating: C. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

£117,950

SEDGLEY

Cross Lane

An attractive, significantly modernised, gas centrally heated & mostly uPVC double glazed semi detached occupying an impressive corner plot in popular neighbourhood within reasonable walking distance of Sedgley's Bull Ring & all associated amenities. Well proportioned accommodation includes superb reception hall (lofty ceiling height), through living room (formerly separate lounge & dining room), upgraded kitchen, three bedrooms, recently reappointed/part tiled bathroom with stylish white contemporary suite & a shower, potential parking. EPC Rating: D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £109,950

BROCKMOOR

Fox Foot Drive

This modern style, Double Glazed (vast majority of units), Gas Centrally Heated, TWO BEDROOM Semi- Detached Home is situated in a popular residential location, and may particularly appeal to FIRST TIME BUYERS. Available with NO UPWARD CHAIN, the accommodation briefly comprises: Entrance Hall, Living Room, Kitchen, TWO GOOD BEDROOMS, Bathroom, Driveway and Rear Garden. EPC Rating D. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265.

£109,950

SEDGLEY

Claremont Road

A gas centrally heated, UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED intermediate terrace of character with various original period features (fireplaces, doors, etc.) excellent situated within walking distance of the Bull Ring & open fields. Accommodation includes dining room with bay, lobby, sitting, kitchen, rear lobby, bathroom, two double bedrooms. Delightful sheltered rear garden & substantial concrete panel WORKROOM/STORE (light & power & rear pedestrian access). EPC Rating: D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £105,000

Stourbridge

The Glade

Forming part of an established close within easy reach of High Street amenities, this ATTRACTIVELY STYLED, TWO BEDROOM, SEMI DETACHED HOME affords a layout with GAS CENTRAL HEATING AND UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING to comprise: Hall, Sitting Room with Dining Space, Combined Breakfast Kitchen, Two First Floor Bedrooms and Bathroom. Foregarden, prospective Drive and Lovely Rear Garden. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC Rating D. STOURBRIDGE OFFICE 01384 395555

£104,950

COSELEY

Rounds Hill Road

A comprehensively modernised, freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed semi detached of character that has been 'transformed' by present vendor in recent years. Situated within reasonable distance of bus/rail transport routes & many other amenities, the stylish accommodation provides reception hall, lounge, dining room (with double French doors out to garden), refitted kitchen with integrated appliances, two/three bedrooms, reappointed bathroom with white suite, block paved foregarden (kerb dropped) & good size rear garden. EPC Rating E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £103,950

Stourbridge

Crabbe Street

Favouring an elevated position within this established address, this WELL APPOINTED AND TASTEFULLY DECORATED, TWO BEDROOM, END OF MEWS STYLED HOME should appeal to first time buyers and includes GAS CENTRAL HEATING AND UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING to comprise: Pleasant Sitting Room, MODERN WELL FITTED KITCHEN with Dining Area, Two Good First Floor Bedrooms and White Bathroom. Drive and Enclosed Rear Garden. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC Rating D. STOURBRIDGE OFFICE 01384 395555

£102,950

COSELEY

Ettingshall Road

This traditional style, uPVC double glazed, gas centrally heated, three bedroom semi detached home which is "tucked away" just off Ettingshall Road, and is available with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Accommodation briefly comprises; entrance hall, lounge, dining kitchen. Three bedrooms, bathroom. Front & rear gardens. EPC Rating E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £79,950

DUDLEY

Edenbridge View, Milking Bank Area

50% SHARE AVAILABLE FOR SALE. Enviably situated at head of cul de sac section, a gas centrally heated, uPVC double glazed semi detached in popular district within walking distance of so many amenities. Vendor's 50% share available for sale (other 50% owned by Housing Association who charge a fair market rental) with accommodation providing entrance hallway, lounge, transverse dining kitchen, store, two generous double bedrooms, bathroom with white suite, parking to front & good sized sheltered rear garden. EPC Rating: C.SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

PRICE: £62,475 FOR 50% SHARE.

COSELEY

Yew Tree Lane

70% SHARE FOR SALE. An attractive, stylish GROUND FLOOR, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed flat (in small block - just four dwellings) within walking distance of COSELY RAILWAY STATION and many other amenities. Vendors' 70% share available for sale (remaining 30% owned by Housing Association who charge a fair market rental), individual front door to 19'4" lounge with well equipped kitchen section beyond (integrated oven, hob & filter), understair store, inner hallway, TWO BEDROOMS, bathroom with white suite, ample parking, extensive lawned grounds. EPC Rating: C. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers around £60,000 for vendor's 70% share.

UPPER GORNAL

Pale Street

NO UPWARD CHAIN. Excellently situated within reasonable walking distance of so many amenities, a GROUND FLOOR flat that has been renovated to a fine specification as a personal inspection will confirm. There is an 'entry phone' security system and vendor advises works include certified rewire, some re-plastering, a fine standard of decor throughout together with gas central heating and uPVC double glazing. Accommodation includes reception hall, enlarged/refitted breakfast kitchen with a fine range of units including oven, hob & filter, lounge, double bedroom, reappointed bathroom with white suite. Externally are two lockable storage areas, communal grounds. EPC Rating E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £59,995

Drivetime

Your guide to the latest motoring news and views

Qashqai a modern motoring success

Question: What connects Paddington in central London, with Cranfield in rural Buckinghamshire as well as Sunderland in the far north of England?

The answer is one of the biggest success stories in modern motoring, in the shape of the Nissan Qashqai, a car that almost by itself started a new trend for cars which look tall and tough but are as easy to park as a hatchback and about as economical to run.

Since the first one rolled off the production line in Sunderland in 2007, more than 1,700,000 have been built.

Taking the pressure from what the pop industry calls 'that second, difficult album', the team at Nissan's European design centre in Paddington did what all the research was telling them.

Existing Qashqai owners loved their cars but wouldn't mind a bit more style, a dash of extra technology and, please, keep a tight rein on running costs.

So the new Qashqai looks like an entirely logical development of the first car.

Allied to upgraded petrol and diesel engines, this sharper-suited Qashqai now slips below the road tax barrier in its most frugal version, and all the rest use less fuel than before.

For the way it feels on the road we have the 1,000-strong team at Nissan's technical centre in Cranfield to thank. And what a fine job they've done.

Qashqai customers told the Nissan pollsters they didn't want a Golf GTI, thank you, but something that made them feel confident to drive.

AA WARRANTY
Approved to sell AA products and carry out warranty repairs

The CAR LOT
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2008 (58 Reg) Kia Ceed LS SW CRDI 1.6L 5 door, Black, Diesel, 63,000 miles SOLD

2005 (55 Reg) Audi A4 TDI SE 2.0L 5 door, Grey, Automatic, Diesel, 105,000 miles £5,290

2008 (08 Reg) Ford Focus Style 1.6L 5 door, Grey, 38,000 miles £5,290

2008 (08 Reg) Vauxhall Tigra Exclusiv 16V 1.4L 2 door, Blue, 56,000 miles £4,990

2008 (08 Reg) Vauxhall Corsa Club A/C 16V 1.2L 3 door, Silver, 20,000 miles SOLD

2008 (08 Reg) Vauxhall Corsa Design 16V 1.4L 5 door, Metallic Grey, 57,000 miles SOLD

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Fuel consumption figures for CR-V 2.0 i-VTEC S 2WD Manual in mpg (l/100km): Urban 31.7 (8.9), Extra Urban 45.6 (6.2), Combined 39.2 (7.2). CO_2 emissions: 168g/km; for Civic 1.4 i-VTEC S Manual in mpg (l/100km): Urban 42.2 (6.7), Extra Urban 60.1 (4.7), Combined 52.3 (5.4). CO_2 emissions: 129g/km; for Jazz 1.2 i-VTEC S in mpg (l/100km): Urban 42.8 (6.6), Extra Urban 61.4 (4.6), Combined 53.3 (5.3). CO_2 emissions: 123g/km. Fuel consumption figures sourced from official EU-regulated laboratory test results, are provided for comparison purposes and may not reflect real-life driving experience.

Models Shown: CR-V 2.0 i-VTEC S 2WD Manual in optional Passion Red Pearl at £22,495 On The Road; Civic 1.4 i-VTEC S Manual in Milano Red Non-Metallic at £16,995 On The Road; Jazz 1.2 S Manual in Milano Red Non-Metallic at £10,495 On The Road (OTR). **Terms and Conditions:** New retail CR-V 2.0 i-VTEC S 2WD Manual registered from 2 January 2014 to 31 March 2014. Subject to model and colour availability. Offers applicable at participating dealers and are at the promoter's absolute discretion. **Honda Aspirations (PCP):** *£269 per month example shown based on CR-V 2.0 i-VTEC S 2WD Manual in optional Passion Red Pearl at £22,995 total cash price including 5 year care package at £500 (and total amount payable) with 37 months 0% APR Representative (interest rate per annum 0% fixed) with £4,456.64 (19%) deposit, Guaranteed Future Value / Optional Final Payment of £8,854.53, annual mileage of 10,000 and excess mileage charge: 6p per mile; New retail Civic 1.4 i-VTEC S registered from 2 January 2014 to 31 March 2014. Subject to model and colour availability. Offers applicable at participating dealers and are at the promoter's absolute discretion. **Honda Aspirations (PCP):** *£209 per month example shown based on Civic 1.4 i-VTEC S Manual in Milano Red Non-Metallic at £17,495 total cash price including 5 Year Care Plan at £500 (and total amount payable) with 37 months 0% APR Representative (interest rate per annum 0% fixed) with £3,812.69 (22%) deposit, Guaranteed Future Value / Optional Final Payment of £6,158.38, annual mileage of 10,000 and excess mileage charge: 5p per mile; New retail Jazz 1.2 S registered from 2 January 2014 to 31 March 2014. Subject to model and colour availability. Offers applicable at participating dealers and are at the promoter's absolute discretion. The advertised saving of £1,200 (including VAT) discount to the OTR price for the Jazz 1.2 S applied to the retail invoice. **Honda Aspirations (PCP):** *£140 per month example shown based on Jazz 1.2 S in Milano Red Non-Metallic at £10,995. Total cash price including 5 Year Care Package (and total amount payable) with 37 months 0% APR Representative (interest rate per annum 0% fixed) with £1,795.20 (16%) deposit, Guaranteed Future Value / Optional Final Payment of £4,159.72 annual mileage of 10,000 and excess mileage charge: 3p per mile. You do not have to pay the Final Payment if you return the car at the end of the agreement and you have paid all other amounts due, the vehicle is in good condition and has been serviced in accordance with the Honda service book and the maximum annual mileage has not been exceeded. Indemnities may be required in certain circumstances. Finance is only available to persons aged 18 or over, subject to status. All figures are correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. Credit provided by Honda Finance Europe Plc. 470 London Road, Slough, Berkshire SL3 8QY. The 5 Year Care Package includes: **Servicing:** All scheduled servicing, as detailed in the vehicles service book, will be covered for 5 years or 62,500 miles, whichever comes first. **Warranty:** In addition to the standard 3 year warranty the customer will receive a complimentary 2 year extended guarantee taking the warranty to 5 years or 90,000 miles, whichever comes first. **Roadside Assist:** In addition to the standard 3 years roadside assistance package the customer will receive complimentary Hondacare Assistance for a further 2 years, taking it to 5 years or 90,000 miles, whichever comes first. **The 5 Year Care Package:** The 5 Year Care Package is optional. It is being offered for £500 including VAT (usual value £1,545 including VAT) and is available to finance or non-finance customers. Please note, should you sell the vehicle during the period of cover, the package remains with the vehicle.

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Improvements for hybrid

Lexus is making the most comprehensive package of improvements yet to the CT 200h range, which will make the market's only full hybrid luxury hatchback an even more appealing proposition.

The upgrades are matched by a strengthening of the CT 200h's impressive value, with significant reductions in prices and attractive finance options that open up the prospect of Lexus ownership to many more customers.

The 2014 CT 200h range is available from £20,995 for the entry level S model, a £1,000 reduction; elsewhere in the six-strong line-up, prices have fallen by as much as £1,500.

The smooth, quiet and supremely refined performance of the Lexus Hybrid Drive system that powers the CT 200h (which complies with forthcoming Euro 6 emissions standards) also keeps fuel bills low, with official combined cycle consumption figures of 78.5mpg for the S grade, and 68.9mpg for the other models in the range.

The F Sport model adopts the same mesh pattern grill as the new IS F Sport saloon. It also gains a new rear spoiler with integrated air ducts. New detailing, wheel designs and a shark's fin antenna have also been introduced across the CT range.

Going beyond visual changes, the CT 200h benefits from changes under the skin to deliver better ride quality, stability and handling. The current range of six model grades is retained,

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11 Reg Corsa 1.4 SE 3 door, Technical Grey, 10,000 miles £7995

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New Honda Civic set to be a winner in its sector

The Honda Civic might just be at its best in sleek Tourer guise. With 642-litres of luggage room with the rear seats in place and the cleverest seat folding system in the business, it's well worth a look.

Small estate cars are usually horrible. The styling never quite works, the cars looking like a hall of mirrors version of a bigger car, too high, not long enough and with an uncomfortable afterthought of glazing squiring the back end.

Every once in a while, an exception slips through the net, forcing you to wonder why car manufacturers find it so difficult to style what should be a longer and sleeker version of a supermini or family hatch. Here's one to join that exclusive list, the Honda Civic Tourer.

This estate version of the ninth generation Civic is built in Britain and doesn't come saddled with huge expectations. The compact estate car market has always been a bit of a backwater niche over here, so perhaps it's time for one model to get a solid run at it and turn things around.

So why does the Civic Tourer look so different to the usual cut and paste compact estate designs?

The first thing to note is that there's a genuinely cohesive front-to-rear flow to the design.

The rear end doesn't look like a hasty addition. Its styling is defined by a bold line that runs continuously from the front A-pillar to the D-pillar, creating the impression of a floating roof line.

The glass of the rear quarter window has been extended to cover the body work of the D-pillar and the rear door sash has been raised by 17mm compared to the Civic hatchback to create this bold styling line.

Inside, you get probably the best one-handed seat folding operation in the business – Honda's Magic Seats system. The interior boot floor has been raised compared to the hatchback to create a completely flat area when the seats are folded down. The rear seat cushions can also be flipped up to reveal ample floorspace for carrying tall objects. A 60:40 split in the seat base offers even more options for carrying both people and cargo. You get 624 cubic litres of boot volume with the rear seats in place and up to 1668-litres when they're folded.

Prices start at just over £20,000 for the base 1.8 i-VTEC petrol model, so you're talking a premium of around £1,900 over the equivalent five-door hatch. There's a choice of two engines, a 142PS 1.8 i-VTEC petrol with auto or manual transmission and manual gearbox 120PS 1.6 i-DTEC diesel.

As for equipment, well even the entry level S grade includes features such as Bluetooth Hands Free Telephone (HFT), DAB Radio, USB connectivity and 16in allow wheels.

Benefit

In addition to these items, the SE Plus, the next level up, has rear parking sensors and 17in alloys, whilst SR customers will benefit from the new world first rear Adaptive Damper System (ADS), front heated seats, HDD sat nav and privacy glass. Those who opt for the top EX grade will receive headlight washers, smart entry and start capability, a sunglasses holder, interior blue ambient lighting and Bi-HID headlights with auto levelling.

The 1.6-litre diesel might at first seem to be the poor relation to Honda's 2.2-litre unit in terms of power but it aces the larger capacity engine when it comes to running costs.

Consider this. You'll get almost 75mpg from the astonishingly economical 120PS 1.6 diesel on the combined cycle. For a company which once thought diesel engines a bad idea, Honda has really stolen a march here.

The diesel engine is an absolute gem and safety and security are top drawer. Plus the Civic Tourer's styling is bold, clever and successful and crucially, there's plenty of space inside. Honda's folding seating system is the best in the business too. In summary, this car turns an average hatchback into a surprisingly effective and desirable estate.

It's not without its caveats, but right now this is the Civic body to choose and by quite some margin.

The creative team behind Honda's recent smash-hit viral film 'Hands' is aiming for further success with a new TV advertising campaign to welcome the Civic Tourer into Honda dealerships across the UK.

The campaign celebrates the idea that beauty is about much more than what appears on the surface. The creative plays to the trend in design, engineering and wider society of looks being valued over substance.

The viewer is taken on a journey through various objects, including a golf ball, suitcase, chest of drawers and a guitar amp, to reveal the inner beauty of each.

It then goes on to position the new Civic Tourer as another perfect example of 'Inner Beauty'; dynamic and sporty-looking, yet under the surface there lies practicality and function.'.

IOlivia Dunn, head of marketing for Honda (UK) said: "Take a first glance at the Civic Tourer and you see a great-looking car.

"This campaign takes the viewer beyond that first appearance to emphasise the balance between style and performance, and the incredible practicality that the car delivers.

"Once again the team behind 'Hands' has brought the message to life in a fresh, innovative and compelling way in line with Honda's high standards and unique style."

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Official Chevrolet fuel consumption figures for Cruze 1.6 LS: Urban 31.4, Extra-Urban 51.4, Combined 41.5, CO_2 159 g/km and for the Orlando 1.8 LS: Urban 30.7, Extra-Urban 49.5, Combined 40.3, CO_2 164 g/km. Official EU-Regulated Test Data are provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style.

Pictures for illustration purposes only. Models shown are a Chevrolet Cruze LS Hatchback and Estate and a Chevrolet Orlando 1.8 LS. Vehicles shown features metallic paint at an extra cost of £470. *Saving shown against manufacturers list price whilst stocks last. Savings available on other Chevrolet models. Valid for retail registrations only. Offers available until 31st March 2014 while stocks last. 0% APR Representative, Finance subject to status, terms and conditions apply. Applicants must be 18 or over. Guarantee/Indemnity may be required. Finance supplied by either Santander Consumer (UK) plc, RH1 1SR or GMAC PO BOX 6666. Cardiff, CF15 7YT. Prices correct at time of print. We can introduce you to a limited number of finance providers, commission may be received. Offers may not apply to all Dealer stock.

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60 Nissan Pixo 1.0 N-Tec 5dr Grey 4k	£5,995	£5,495
07 Nissan X Trail 2.2 DCI Columbia Silver 61k	£8,495	£8,295
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58 Volvo S40 1.8 SE 4dr Blue 38k	£6,995	£6,495

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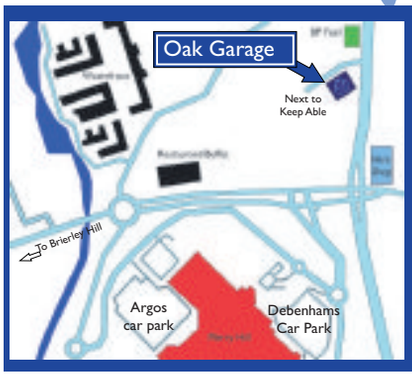

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Drivetime

Good deals and used values set to be high

By David Banner

Suzuki has some good news this winter for customers looking to purchase a new SX4 S-Cross, the brand's all new Crossover model.

Launched in October, the SX4 S-Cross is available from £14,999 for the SZ3 1.6-litre petrol model with manual transmission and Suzuki is offering some very competitive PCP (personal contract plan) and PCH (personal contract hire) rates to help new car buyers looking for the best payment option to suit them.

Taking the SZ3 model as an example with its high standard specification of seven airbags, cruise control with speed limiter, air conditioning, 16-inch alloy wheels and daytime running Lights, Suzuki is offering a low rate PCP of 4.9 per cent APR over a 43 month period until the end of this year with payments of just £189 per month.

Standard

Move up the range to the SZ4 with Dual Zone automatic air conditioning, Bluetooth connectivity, front fog lamps and rear privacy glass as standard and payments are just £10 per month extra over the same term.

Retained value is positive too as established trade publication Glass's Guide has listed an average residual value across the S-Cross range of 41 per cent after three years and 60,000 miles. Lower mileage owners can be ensured of an even higher retained figure when it comes to replacing the car.

Personal Contract Hire is always a good option for Business Users and Suzuki Financial Services is offering a headline low rate plan of £179 per month for the SZ-T model over 42 months with a deposit of six monthly payments required. SZ-T is an ideal choice as it offers an even higher standard specification including Satellite navigation, DAB radio, rear parking camera and polished 17-inch alloy wheels.

With regards to safety, SX4 S-Cross is one of the best new cars on the market after the recent NCAP tests with five stars awarded overall and strong scores of 92 per cent for Adult occupancy protection, 80 per cent for Child occupancy protection and 72 per cent for Pedestrian protection which was the highest score amongst any current competitor Crossover.

It is an ideal choice for families as it offers seating for five, luggage capacity of 430 litres and a low cost of ownership with CO_2 emissions of 127g/km 1.6-litre petrol (manual transmission) and just 110g/km for the 1.6-litre DDiS model.

Real World fuel economy has been commented as 'exceptional' by several of the Automotive magazines with this week's Auto Express voting it second place in their Top Ten most efficient cars tested in 2013, the S-Cross DDiS achieved an average consumption of 59.6mpg.

The S-Cross is contributing well to the growth of the brand already at almost 1,000 sales since launch and Suzuki is currently the fastest growing top 20 car manufacturer in the UK with strong sales momentum currently 30.4 per cent up year on year. Suzuki recently passed the 30,000 unit milestone and the projection is to close 2013 at 33,000 units, an increase of 8,000 over 2012.

XF range is boosted by addition of diesel model

It's Jaguar's introductory model with luxury and performance, but now also with a new high-economy diesel engine. Can it be thrifty and enjoyable?

It's a very busy time over at Jaguar, what with the F-Type Roadster now prowling the streets and the just-announced Coupe version ready to do the same. There's the high performance XJR to come too, but it's the more mainstream models that are relevant to most of us – which is why the XF is so important.

Jaguar has given the XF a few key updates for 2014 and, reflecting the times we live in, the most important change is the introduction of a more frugal new diesel engine.

The 2.2-litre four cylinder unit improves on the previous version with impressive figures of 129g/km of CO2 and 57.7mpg, the kind of numbers that appeal to your wallet rather than your heart.

Part of the reason for the improvement is some clever techy stuff in the shape of a revised cooling system and a bigger EGR valve, but what makes greater sense to you and me is the stop-start system that cuts the engine out when not needed.

If you've not experienced stop-start before it might feel a bit weird, but once you trust that the engine will start again the instant you release the brake pedal it becomes second nature.

It all helps eke out a few more miles per gallon, and it's clever in other ways too – pull up and put the transmission in Park and it goes into stop mode, but release your seat belt and it knows you're home and switches off completely.

Theatre

You still get the XF's bit of theatre when you start up, as the air vents glide electrically open and the previously-flush circular gearlever rises up from between the seats.

The gearbox is also a new addition, with eight forward ratios.

That might seem like an awful lot, but out on the motorway the engine is barely above tickover at the legal limit, keeping noise levels down and fuel economy up.

Despite appearing focused on economy, the XF still offers a driving experience that's a cut above the norm.

Whether the speed is high or low it remains poised, filtering out bumps so you're aware of them, but no discomfort is caused.

Yet the flip side of this is that when you start to press on, the XF is every inch the sports saloon, gripping strongly and staying level and controlled through corners.

But the XF is a car you'd be happy to live with on a daily basis too.

The seats are supportive and comfortable, their heating will toast your behind if you leave them on full power, and the top-drawer audio system can make the worst traffic jams seem irrelevant.

Once upon a time Jaguars were all about the cut and thrust and weren't so easy to justify on a financial basis. But the 2.2 Diesel XF is as economical and easy to live with as a fairly humble family hatchback, yet gives you so much more in terms of comfort, style and driving pleasure. It's hard not to be very impressed.

Jaguar and Land Rover are both winners in the 2014 BusinessCar Awards.

For the Jaguar XF it is a remarkable third successive Executive Car of the Year title, reinforcing its excellent reputation among fleet operators and business motorists, the people whose informed opinions decide the annual awards.

Paul Barker, BusinessCar Editor, said: "The Jaguar XF is a car that's constantly evolving to become more and more relevant to the fleet community, and that's reflected in its hat-trick of BusinessCar Executive Car of the Year awards.

"The XF Sportbrake with lower emitting diesel engines and expanded, more appealing specifications all add up to a car our readers have chosen as best in its segment against some serious competition."

Jaguar has continued to develop the model's strengths and the breadth of customer choice since its launch. This is underscored by the introduction of the XF Sportbrake and the engineering of powertrains that deliver lower emissions, which in turn attract highly competitive tax ratings for business customers. This quality is defined by the XF 2.2d, which delivers 163PS yet just 129g/km of CO2 and official combined cycle fuel economy of more than 57.7mpg.

The Range Rover Sport has secured the Large 4x4 of the Year award.

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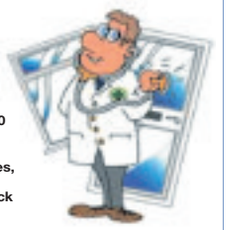

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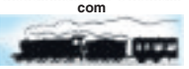

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BORDER COLLIE black and white, nine month old male, £70. 07938 363951.

CAT HOUSES, NEW tongue & groove, on legs, green felted roof £25, can deliver.07913 237789.

CAVAPOO PUPPIES superb blacks and apricots, puppies and juniors. £450/£750. 07867 530504.

CHIHUAHUA MALES. White. Very small. £450. With papers. 01584 841005 or 07583 974801.

ENGLISH SPRINGER SPANIEL Puppies, 8 weeks, parents can be seen, £225. 01299 861586 / 07989 280633.

GERMAN SHEPHERD Puppies, 8 weeks old, big boned, both parents can be seen. £350. 01746 761279 / 07850 569996.

HEADS & TAILS dog grooming service. £5 off every fifth visit. Please call 07792 870543.

JEFFRY'S DOG WALKING & sitting service. W-ton, fully insured & reg. Senior citizen rates. 07855 275537.

MALE STAFF Bull Terrier, 8 months old, health reasons forces sale, paid £450 sell £250. 07864 884874.

PATTERDALE/BORDER terrier pups, 2 lovely males, 9 weeks old, black, wormed, vaccinated, ideal family pet. 07528 860866.

PEDIGREE PEKINGESE Male dog, 6 mnths old, all injections. Genuine reason. £550. 01384 863454.

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LEXI Staffie x Springer Spaniel, 1yr old, walks nice on lead, friendly/affectionate.

SOPHIE Small 5yr old brown and white Staffie, very loving, loves car,

Both these dogs would make lovely pets.
01384 252158.

5 Business & Farming

business opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering any obligations.

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business directory

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commercial premises

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6 Property

mobile homes

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accommodation to let

A 1-BEDROOM over 50's flat, Chapel Ash, W'ton, £350 pcm. Wednesfield H.A. 01952 463603.

NOTICE TO READERS
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

NOTICE TO READERS It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

BEAUTIFUL Studio flat, refurbished and furnished, Newbridge. £320pcm. 07886 002704.

BEDSITS, STUDIOS to let, newly refurbished, Willenhall area. Call for details 07885 158918.

DSSMOVE.CO.UK the property website where properties say YES to DSS tenants.

EXCLUSIVE Ground floor one bed flat, Lovely location, Essington. £450pcm. 07454 015789.

FULLY FURNISHED ONE BED FLAT Tettenhall area, No DSS. 07976 263435 or 01902 700028.

LUXURY refurbed 1 bed furnished flat, private grounds, single person, no DSS, £95 pw. 01902 885985.

NETHERTONGoldcrest Close. Unfurnished 3 bed house. CH, DG, offroad parking. No DSS. To view call 0121 503 0992.

NEWLY REFURBISHED 1 bed apartment, Penn, CH, DG, no deposit. £300pcm. 07900 156313.

ONE BED FLAT Bilston and Pennfields.DSS Ok. 07545 186949

ONE BEDROOM flat, Wolverhampton, recently refurbished, DG, CH, no pets. 07507 259621.

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THREE BEDROOM Semi detached, Bilston, DG, CH, new carpet, driveway. £525pcm. 0788 6781724.

THREE BEDROOMED house to let, Bushbury. Call 07985 804801.

THREE DOUBLE bed house, Penn, CH, DG, refurbed, small garden / yard, £550pcm. 07792 210806.

TIPTON, 2 bedroom semi-detached, garden, Negotiable Deposit, DSS family welcome, 07772 857157

TWO BED house, Whitmore Reans, very clean, off road parking. 07884 311638.

WEDNESFIELD. 3 bed semi, DG, CH, modernised, drive, £130pw. Dep & refs req 07932 504351.

1, 2 AND 3 BEDROOM Properties available in Wednesfield / Tipton. DSS accepted. Call: 07773 594640

1 BED FLAT, Stockton Court, Coseley. Very good condition. £80 per week. DSS accepted. Tel 07983 965589

accommodation wanted

REP LOOKING for homely accommodation Mon-Fri. Black Country area. Around £75. 07951 676275.

7 Jobs

building & construction

BRICKLAYING GANGS Wanted urgently. Must have CSCS card. Tel 07515 276166.

ELECTRICIANS, PLUMBERS/Gas, Tilers and Decorators and Multi Skill Kitchen Fitters required for domestic works. Must have 17th Edition, CSCS Card, Asbestos Awareness, NVQ or equivalents, Gas Safe Cookers & Boilers. Experience of social housing preferable. Please contact 01384 566668 or email enquiries@neweygroup.com

cleaners

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drivers

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employment wanted

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30 YEAR OLD Seeks employment in vehicle diagnostics/electronics etc. Call Dave 07748 477351,

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CHEF required. Mon/Tues/Sat lunch. 16 + hours p.w. Wage depending on experience. The Fountain Inn, Temple Street Lower Gornal. 01384 242777.

motor trade

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8 Motoring

cars under £1500

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FORD FOCUS GHIA, 2002, 90,000 miles, MoT, CD player, alloys, Superb car throughout, £700 ono. 01902 398103.

FORD FOCUS Zetec,1999, burgundy, good condition in / out, new exhaust, battery. Very reliable. MoT August, £450. 07713 480661.

FORD KA 1.3, petrol, 2001, 51k miles, blue, 7 months MoT, £650 ono. 07875 600978.

FORD KA 2 X reg, 12 months MoT, CL, AC, alloy wheels, no rust, clean car, £695. 01902 780135.

FORD MONDEO TITANIUM, 2005, 138,000 miles, silver, full spec, electric mirrors, windows, seat, etc. £1,250 ono. 07845 486058.

HONDA CIVIC
2002, 139,000 miles, blue, abs, air bag, alarm, MoT, central locking, pas, sunroof, tax, alloys, stereo, CD, leather interior.
£1,150 ono.
01785 841083.

JAGUAR XTYPE
2003, tax and MoT April 2014, metallic blue, 2 litre SE, reversing sensors, etc
£1,250.
Telephone 01902 846788 or 07961 187683.

NISSAN ALMERA Tino S 1.8, 2003, petrol and gas, 119,500 miles, 12 months MoT, £950 ono. 01384 326379.

NISSAN MICRA 1.0, W reg 2000, 7 months MoT, tax end of Feb, good condition, £795ono. 07967 220306.

PEUGEOT 106XN, L reg., full MoT, good condition, £475 ono. May part exchange for road quad bike. 01902 789624.

PEUGEOT 206 1.1, 51 plate, green, 11 months MoT, Tax till end June 14, 80k miles, lovely runner. £900. 07941 609075.

PEUGEOT 206 1.4, 2003, petrol, silvery blue, tax, MoT, EW, CL, 100,000 miles, good first car, £800. 07535 907308.

SEAT CORDOBA R Reg, diesel, 4dr, 1 owner, 82,000 miles. £549.
01902 747851.

TOYOTA CARINA E 1.8, N reg, tax, MoT, 78,000 miles. £500.
Telephone 07704 494633.

VAUXHALL AGILA Expression 1000, 2005, recent MoT and Service, tax, 63k, very good condition, £995 ono. 01746 783671.

VAUXHALL COMBO 1.7CD 2005, MoT till May. Quick sale. £1,200. 07543 237183.

VAUXHALL COMBO 1.7CD 2005, MoT till May. Quick sale. £1,200. 07543 237183.

VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6, black, 1 months tax, 7 months MoT, 100k miles, X reg, £650.
07875 470675.

VOLVO ESTATE 850. Auto, Petrol, 95 reg., MoT'd till July. Alloy wheels. £450. o.n.o. 07901 971490

VOLVO S40 Saloon, 2001 MoT Nov 14, new battery, dics and pads, good tyres, good condition for age, £895 ono. Call 07938 446750.

VW POLO
1.0, 3 door hatchback, X reg, 2000, 12 months Mot, 4 months tax, 60,000 miles, one owner from new, very good condition, £895 ono.
01902 750111 or 07912 685213.

cars over £1500

CHEVROLET MATIZ 59 plate, 10 months MoT and Tax, Red, FSH, 17,000 miles from new. £2,495 ono. 01384 258006 / 07833 788902.

FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC
2007,(07 reg), Climate Pack, 61,000 miles, silver, petrol, fsh, MoT, 4 months tax, alloy wheels, good condition, reluctant sale.
£3,450.
01902 843576.

FORD FOCUS CC2 COUPE / CABRIOLET, 07(57), 44,000 miles, 1999cc, petrol, blue, tax, MoT, immaculate, £4,600. 07738 219463.

FORD FOCUS LX TDCi 1.8 diesel, 5Dr, 2007, metallic grey, August MoT, April tax, 94,000 miles, £2,795. 07949 990640.

MUST BE SEEN

FORD KA STUDIO
2011, white, 7,000 miles, petrol, manual, warranty, tax, stop/start, 64mpg, air bags, CD radio, MP3, AUX.
Immaculate.
No agents.
£6,200.
07711 527428/01384 442468.

MUST BE SEEN

JAGUAR X-TYPE ESTATE SE 2.0DCi
2005(55), 136,000 miles, 11 months MoT, tax, green, cream leather, Sat Nav, all Jaguar refinements, new clutch/flywheel. Superb!
£3,000 ono.
Telephone 07957 806473.

MERCEDES CLK ELEGANCE 2002, Automatic, S reg., full MoT, FSH, immaculate condition £1,800 ono. 01562 851277.

MINI ONE 8 months tax, 12 months MoT, silver, 78,000 miles, 54 reg, £3,400. 07852 823239.

NISSAN MICRA ACENTA, 2008, 1.2, automatic, black, 26,000 miles, 5Dr, tax, MoT, £4,500. 07751 423281.

SKODA OCTAVIA
2002, 123,000 miles, silver, abs, electric windows/sunroof, air bag, electric mirrors, air con, fsh, alarm, long MoT, diesel, central locking.
£1,700.
07454 001511.

TOYOTA AURIS 1.4
58 plate, excellent condition, 5dr, black, petrol, pas, air con, electric windows, many other features, must be seen, company car forces sale,
Bargain £4,800 ono.
07557 091014.

TOYOTA AURIS TR, 2009, 27,000 miles, black, alloys, power steering, warranty, £6,090 ono. 07506 871104.

TOYOTA AVENSIS 2.0 Diesel, 04 reg, MoT, fsh, 3 keys. Immaculate in and out. Silver. £2,650 ono. 07710 714421 or 01902 862871.

VAUXHALL ASTRA Life Estate, 1.8 auto, blue, 57 reg., 35k, fsh, MoT October, six months tax, two new tyres, £2,750. 07710 273211.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXi 06 Reg, 12 months MoT, tax, 3 owners from new, black, fsh, absolute bargain £1,650. 07867 124934.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXI+, 06 reg., 3-dr, black, only 51,000 miles, 8 months MoT. Nice condition. £2,695. 07850 113660.

VAUXHALL CORSA 55 reg, 1.2 cc in silver, 3 door design, 49,000 miles, 10 months MoT, full Vauxhall SH, £2,650 ono. 07528 055707.

VAUXHALL MERIVA 16V 2004, 50,000 miles, MoT, SH, towbar, free trailer, good condition, great runner. £1,550. 07890 289388.

classic cars

HONDA ACCORD COUPE 2.2ES, 1998, Tax, MoT, fsh, superb condition, must be seen, £500. 01902 424392 (daytime only).

MG MIDGET 1500 yellow, 1978, good condition, hard and soft top, MoT'd and taxed, good runner, £3,200 ono. 07775 847334.

RELIANT RIALTO 1986, reconditioned engine, tax and MoT till August 2014, £1,200 ono. 07910 019611.

commercial vehicles

FORD ESCORT Van 55D, 2000 reg, 66,000 genuine miles, 11 months MoT, £350 ono. 01384 241763 or 07956 117220.

RENAULT KANGOO VAN, with seats, 2002, 19 diesel, full MoT, 97k, very good condition, £895 ono. 01384 274518 or 07703 540507.

SKODA FELICIA PICK-UP
Truckman. Caddy Engine 1998, 120.000 miles.
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motorbikes

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07806 592252.

CARRERA MOUNTAIN Bike, 27 speed, disc brakes, excellent condition, hard tail, £235.
07454 892533.

HONDA CB250, blue, 1994, good runner, well maintained, long MoT, low mileage for year. £520.
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10 Personals

general

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personal

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GOOD LOOKING, BLACK, SLIM GUY
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Please provide address and phone number for communication.
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LADY 57
5ft 7 tall, WLTM a tall gentleman 50 - 60 with a GSOH, caring and, trustworthy, for nights in / out, holidays etc. Friendship possible Relationship.
Photo if possible (returned).
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Would like to meet female Friends, early 50s in Dudley and surrounding areas, for holidays, mini breaks, nights out, chats and company.
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LADY, YOUNG AT HEART
Enjoys walking, holidays and music.
WLTM gent, age 57-62 years, for Friendship/Relationship. Wolverhampton and surrounding areas preffered.
Please write to: Box Number P19052, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

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YOUNG HEARTED LADY EARLY 60's
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sports clubs

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Starke takes the handlebars at Heathens

Speedway

CRADLEY have handed Paul Starke, one of last season's Grand Slam stars, the captaincy.

Starke made a major impact with the club's supporters during a memorable campaign and his return for 2014 has gone down well.

And although he knows he has big shoes to fill, Starke believes the Heathens reshaped side is capable of defending the title.

He said: "I'm absolutely delighted to get the chance to be captain this year, and it's a real honour.

"As a club we had a great season in 2013, so I have big shoes to fill but if I can take over the role Ashley (Morris) did then I'll be chuffed.

"Last year we had an incredible year, so to try and emulate what we did is going to be a real challenge.

"But we look like we have a strong team, and we have a few riders who could make big strides in the sport at the moment.

"Personally I'll be looking to just help as much as I can as captain and try to score as many points as possible at No.1 to take some pressure off the lower order.

"It's nice to have some people pushing me in the team as well with Steve Worrall and Tom Perry both capable of challenging for the No.1 race jacket as well.

"I want to be at No.1 all season so I'll have to be on the top of my game, and hopefully that friendly competition will help all of us.

"I think we have a good mix of youth and experience really.

"Nathan (Greaves) and Max (Clegg) both have a year of experience under their belt riding in a winning team and I think they will really breakthrough and make big strides in the main body this year.

"The younger lads at reserve, Matt Williamson and Danny Phillips, have both shown a lot of promise, and with some experienced people around them we'll be hoping they can make the same progress Max and Nathan did last year.

"Whatever happens it's going to be an exciting year for Cradley, and like everyone I'm just hoping we can do well and defend our league title."

Meanwhile Heathens are set to have a presence on Quarry Bank High Street – with a new club shop.

Printworx have taken over the club's merchandise after Heathens Speedway Supporters Club stepped down because of pressure of time.

Heathens Chairman Nigel Pearson said: "This is a great opportunity for the club to have a presence in Quarry Bank, close to the old stadium. Printworx have some great ideas on merchandise and I am sure it will prove to be extremely popular." New merchandise will be available at the club's season launch night on March 8.

Legend of snooker Davis to visit city

ONE of snooker's true legends will be giving players in Wolverhampton the chance to be champions.

Steve Davis, who won the World Championships six times in the 1980s, will take a break from his TV commitments to visit the city next month to run a tournament featuring 64 students from Highfields School in Penn.

The students, who are all aged between 11 and 16, will battle it out over15-minute single frame contests with the eventual winner crowned champion.

Davis, aged 56, who put down his cue to appear on I'm A Celebrity...Get Me Out Of Here! last year, will then play a special exhibition match against the victorious student.

The school's new sports hall will be converted into a mini-version of The Crucible for the tournament on March 4, with one full size table surrounded by 10 six feet tables.

Tim Rowley, PE teacher at Highfields said excitement was building amongst the students ahead of the arrival of The Sultan of

Teamwork brings Blox the result

Kingswinford 0
Bloxwich Men's 1st XI 8

BLOXWICH followed up last week's excellent result with another superb team display in which they obliterated an off-the-pace Kingswinford team.

Bloxwich started very cagily and spent the first 10 minutes nervously defending against a strong and well-drilled Kingswinford attack.

Jamie Bayliss made some world class saves to keep Bloxwich in the game. From then on in, Bloxwich managed to use their speedy attack to great effect with Adam Baldwin opening the scoring. The goals kept on coming for Bloxwich with them sitting comfortably on a 3-0 lead at half time despite not playing their best hockey. In the second half Bloxwich started to play with a lot more fluidity with Adam Baldwin scoring three more to make it four for the game, Dan Mazurek got one as did , Eddie Marrocco and Gary Williams two.

Saxons deny Tigers to earn the victory

Rugby

Sedgley Park 3 Stourbridge Saxons 45

SEDGLEY Park came into this game having turned over leaders Macclesfield three weeks ago but in need of a win to retain any semblance of momentum in their faltering campaign.

With nothing less than a win also essential for Neil Mitchell's charges the game had long been identified as season-defining for the Saxons' own promotion aspirations.

The visitors kicked off into a stiff breeze, taking an early scrum against the head and forcing the hosts back with direct drives from Nigel Mukarati and Ben Hughes.

Flanker Eji Uzoigwe secured the first try from the tail of a lineout catch and drive.

A missed touch by the hosts gifted possession back, the Saxons gratefully countering for prop Mark George to force his way over.

A Saxons midfield drive set up a goal line siege that was only kept out illegally, a short range scrum option seeing Uzoigwe crash over again.

Another fine Hurrell catch set up the bonus point 4th try as hooker Scott Wright was driven over.

Centre Riley hit a monster 55 metre penalty goal which finally put the hosts on the scoreboard.

Hughes was replaced by Drew Harper, Chris Depper moving up from No.8 to second row. In the second half Nathan Bressington chipped the advancing defenders and won the foot-race to score after gathering the bouncing ball.

Fellow winger Jamie Hearn attempting a chip and chase of his own but was thwarted by an illegal block that earned home fullback Wainwright a sin binning. Harper gathered the ball at the base of a ruck and demonstrated great strength to power through the fringe defences.

The hosts recovered possession from the restart and finally strung a set of phases together as the rain started to lash down. A set of drives were held out by an uncompromising Saxons' defence that was now content to sit on the lead, kicking possession downwind and inviting the hosts to run at them and force passes in deteriorating conditions.

A steady flow of penalties ensued and were kicked deep to pin the hosts back.

The hosts failed to clear their lines though and conceded a penalty try as an advancing scrum was dragged down.

Replacement Drew Harper powers through the Sedgley defence to score. Photograph Tim Abram

Foster in staggering effort over tough run

DUDLEY Kingswinford athlete Ben Foster claimed his second victory in a month, taking first place in Sunday's Stourbridge Stagger.

Flying Foster made light of the 10 -mile course over muddy tracks, fields and country lanes.

Many Stagger diehards stated afterwards it was the worst conditions they had experienced, the course feeling more like 15 miles in the conditions.

Fosters victory was a tight one, his winning time of 1.07.29 some seven seconds ahead of runner-up Halesowen AC's Tom Kenderdine who finished in 1.07.36 and Stuart Hawkes of Amazing Feet who claimed third place in 1.08.00. There were also age group prizes for DK's Helen Tromans who claimed 1st FV40 and Carol Fisher who bagged the 1st FV50 prize.

As expected for a race so close to home turf DK's blue hoops were out in force with 16 athletes making up the 400 plus field. Rob Meredith was second DK runner home taking 10th place in 1.11.03 despite taking a fall. He was joined by Paul Richards and Club Chairman Mick Quane.

Weather chaos for matches

WITH last Saturday's game against Gornal Athletic falling victim to yet another postponement due to the waterlogged state of the pitch, Wood, who haven't played a game since the 6-1 demolition of Heather St John on December 28 now face the prospect of a game every Saturday and Tuesday/Wednesday until the end of the season on April 26.

The long lay off has had a silver lining, giving injured players the chance of getting fit.

Drew Aiton made a cameo appearance against Continental Star on Boxing Day, scoring the winner, Craig Deakin should be over his leg injury and assistant manager Jay Hawkins should be back in the frame, add to this new signings Louis Harris and Kieron Clarke and there is going to be a real scramble for places in the last three months.

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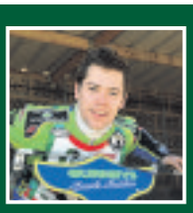
SPORT

New role
Starke handed captain's mantle
Page 47



Saxon haul
Tigers tamed by big score
Page 47

Sports Desk 01902 319531 email: Chronsport@expressandstar.co.uk

Villa for sale is rubbish says club

ASTON Villa have rejected claims they have been put up for sale.

The claret and blues have rubbished reports they are on the market and chairman Randy Lerner wants to sell.

Lerner bought Villa for £62.6m in 2006 and was reportedly looking for £200m to get a return on his investment, including transfer fees and upgrades to Villa Park and Bodymoor Heath.

But Villa have distanced themselves and insisted Lerner is not looking to leave.

Chief executive Paul Faulkner said: "I can categorically confirm Aston Villa Football Club has absolutely not been put up for sale and that Randy Lerner is not actively looking to sell the club."

The speculation came after Saturday's 2-1 defeat at Everton as Villa conceded twice in the last 16 minutes to lose at Goodison Park.

Kevin Mirallas' late winner won it for the Toffees after Steven Naismith cancelled out Leandro Bacuna's first-half opener.

Boss Paul Lambert said: "Since the turn of the year we've been in pretty good form.

"I think tiredness crept in and it's a wonder goal which has settled it. I thought we were comfortable in the game and in the first half we never looked under threat."

Jones is out of the fight

WOLVERHAMPTON'S Wayne Jones was put out in the third round by title winner Gary Anderson in the weekend's PDC German Darts Championship.

'The Wanderer' bowed out after putting up a fight against the on-fire 'Flying Scotsman,' who hit a 161 finish to set up his victory on Sunday afternoon.

The pair shared the opening four legs before Anderson made his move, taking the fifth with the aid of a 180 before defying a maximum reply from Jones.

Anderson broke Jones' though in the next for a 4-2 lead but the Wednesfield darter broke back, punishing two missed darts at tops from the Scot.

Jones hit another 180 as he levelled, but Anderson found another gear with 161 for a 12-darter to move 5-4 up and then finishing the next leg in 14 to win.

Glassboys show their opponents a high five

Weymouth 0 Stourbridge 5

Football

THE Glassboys completed an emphatic league double over Weymouth for the second season running. Stourbridge included new signing Ben Birch, a young defender recruited from Redditch United, for his debut at the Bob Lucas Stadium.. With six minutes gone Stourbridge forged in front when Drew Canavan shot home a loose ball. Stourbridge doubled their lead when Sansara broke up another Weymouth attack allowing Brown to carry the ball down the left before playing the ball inside to Billingham who spun away from his marker to supply a raking pass forward to Canavan and he skipped past Scott Walker before hitting a 20-yard shot that was blocked by Michael Walker but the ball rebounded off the unfortunate Kelly straight into the path of an onside Sean Geddes who turned the ball into an empty net. Stourbridge maintained the upper-hand after the break. In the 56th minute Stourbridge stretched their lead further when Kyle Haynes lofted a clearance forward which Billingham pursued and passed into the run of Geddes who tucked the ball away. Weymouth replied with Ben Joyce playing the ball wide to Luke Burbidge on the right and he drove towards the byline before pulling a ball back for Joyce to hit a shot that was too close to Coleman and then on 63 minutes Burbidge laid on another chance for Joyce, but he didn't catch his shot cleanly and Birch cleared the ball. There was some controversy surrounding the visitor's fourth goal after 70 minutes with Haynes playing the ball forward and Berwick getting a flick to put Billingham through, but although his left arm was tugged back by Michael Walker, he managed to stay on his feet and get away a decent shot that Matthews parried, however the referee pulled play back and awarded a free-kick before showing a red card to the Weymouth defender who had had a torrid afternoon. To rub salt into the wound Billingham buried the 20-yard free-kick past the diving Matthews – a reward for his outstanding contribution to the victory. Four minutes from time sub Jordan Fitzpatrick added a fifth when he fed the ball into the feet of Billingham and continued his run inside to take a neat return pass and strike a sweet 20-yard drive beyond the diving Matthews to round off a satisfying afternoon for the visitors.

DK NOW STARING AT RELEGATION

Dudley Kingswinford 5 Bromsgrove 41

THIS was a game that DK targeted as a possible first win of the season, but limped out in the end well beaten by Bromsgrove, who were the better of two poor teams on the day.

Rugby

For the home side, flankers Danny Hawkins and Peter Knight worked tirelessly throughout, ably supported by back row colleague Jon Tideswell.

Second row Ed Parry and Nick Murphy put in a full shift, ably supported by hooker Matt Humphreys whose strong runs took a lot of stopping.DK opened strongly and playing with the strong wind behind them put pressure on the visitors but lacked that vital cutting edge to finish off their mounting attacks. All they had to show for their efforts was a penalty attempt some 30 metres out, but fly half Kieran Pinches pulled his kick agonisingly wide of the post.

Impetus

This appeared to take some of the impetus away and Bromsgrove soon capitalized with two quick tries, first by fly half Aaron Higgins and then flanker David Hughes, the latter being converted by Higgins.

DK's cause was not helped when influential lock Nick Murphy was sin binned for repeated infringements at the breakdown after 20 minutes, but somehow they denied the visitors any further scoring opportunities when down to 14 men. Murphy returned to the fray, and this sparked DK into action and after some sustained pressure on the visitors' line, prop Dan Shakespeare forced his way over in the corner for DK's only score of the game. Pinches conversion attempt came up short of the mark.

Bromsgrove came storming back and were rewarded with another try scored by their impressive No.8, Solomon Dacres, with Higgins narrowly missing the conversion.

The second half continued in the same vein with DK still attempting to play their expansive game but just lacking the finishing touches. Bromsgrove took full advantage and were rewarded with four further tries scored by hooker George Glenn, David Hughes bagging a second, a harsh penalty try, and finally wing Sam Bostock for the final play of the match. Higgins added the conversions to two of them.

There is no shortage of spirit in the DK team but realistically it is difficult to see where their first win of the season will come from now. However, one thing is true they will keep fighting to the end. This week the team travel to Harrogate – Kick off 2 pm

Nick Murphy picks up the ball and drives forward for Dudley Kingswinford in the match against Bromsgrove which they eventually lost 41-5. DK are yet to register their first win of the season.

Pearce aims for masters

STEVEN PEARCE is ready to become the 'Master of Masters' by adding the British Masters Welterweight crown to the International Masters strap he picked up in his last outing.

The former Midlands Area Champion goes in search of the British Masters crown on EJKO Promotions bill – March Mayhem – at Walsall Town Hall on Saturday, March 1.

The 28 year-old takes on Sheffield's Ryan Hardy and is determined to add another belt to his boxing CV.

"I'm at that stage of my boxing career where I want to be fighting for titles," he told www.uko-boxing.com. "It gives me the motivation to keep training and working hard.

"I've held the Midlands Area crown and now I've got the International Masters title after beating Rob Hunt in my last fight. I want to add the British Masters title to my list and keep pushing forward.

Tickets for March Mayhem, priced at £30 and £60 Ringside, are available from Walsall Town Hall Box Office on 0845 111 2900. Pearce versus Hardy tops the bill of a bumper 11-fight card.

Hause-ing first team ambition

AMBITIOUS new boy Kortney Hause says he aims of making the Wolves first-team this season.

The 18-year-old left-sided centre-back was a surprise addition late on transfer deadline day when he arrived from Wycombe on a two-and-a-half-year contract. Hause, who has played 31 games for the League Two side.

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